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President's Message

Dear Members:

When you read this, our last field trip of the year will have just been completed – another event in our tradition of pushing the envelope in the search for hard to find species here in Illinois. This trip set for Nov. 10 at Pyramid State Park to was set to seek the elusive Sprague's Pipit, a bird that migrates through our state in very small numbers. It is rarely seen.

Targeting a rare bird can be hit or miss. Take our most recent field trip looking for the Yellow Rail in the fall. No Yellow Rail, but what a great trip – Long-tailed Jaeger, Prairie Chicken and Sabine's Gull highlighting 88 species seen for the day!

After a certain amount of experimentation over the years we have settled on a field trip program of 10 to 12 a year, including the Annual Meeting. Most of the field trips target difficult-to-find birds, such birds as Smith's Longspur, Sabine's Gull, Painted Bunting and Eurasian Tree Sparrow. But these trips offer so much more than the opportunity to chase rare birds. Some such as the Annual Meeting, Gull Frolic and Shorebird Spectacular are also designed to be educational. The objective is to give participants the opportunity to see birds as well as improve identification skills and enable even beginning birders to make tricky IDs. By the end of our Shorebird Spectacular this year everyone could separate a Greater Yellowlegs from a Lesser Yellowlegs and a Least Sandpiper from a Semipalmated Sandpiper.

For those of you who live for field trips, checkout the new Illinois Birding Calendars page on the IOS website, www.illinois-birds.org/calendar/index.html, with its monthly listings of birding events around the state.

The IOS field trips are a wonderful way to make new birding friends from all over the state and beyond, explore our beautiful state and see avian species. So far this year, 216 species have been seen during our field trips throughout the state. Our Chickens Trip to Colorado chalked up 227 species, including every species of prairie-chicken and grouse with the exception of ptarmigan. Finding a white plumaged bird in a blizzard proved too much of a challenge.

Our Field Trip Chair, Travis Mahan and his peerless trip leaders deserve our thanks for their well planned and executed events.

Look for our 2008 Field Trip schedule on our Web site and mark your calendars for the Annual Meeting on the weekend of April 25-27th in Southern Illinois. The Annual Meeting will be held in conjunction with the Birding Fest of Southernmost Illinois. Details will be posted shortly on the IOS Web site.

Good birding.

Michael Hogg,
President
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Letter from the Editor

How to memorialize birders

This issue features a memoriam to three excellent birders – Ben Gelman, Jerrry Kumery and Jim Landing. But they were more than that – they were teachers. Ben taught southern Illinoisans about birds through his columns and book. Jerry Kumery educated others about birds through his beautiful photos and interesting posts to IBET, the Illinois birders list serve. Jim Landing pointed out bird features to help folks with identification in the field for many years. He also organized myriad workshops so we could sort out all those gulls and shorebirds.

But, they were more than even birders and teachers. They were human beings. And its seems fitting during this time of mourning and before the Christmas Bird Counts begin to remember we all are humans and even though we have disagreements with "birders" and "teachers," we must remember to treat humans with respect.

Many of us, if not all, have sent or been sent an "unkind" e-mail regarding our beliefs, thought processes and values as birders. Some of us get our feelings hurt for what folks have said about us on e-mails or in the field. And surely many of us need to be apologized to or offer our own apologies.

May I offer a suggestion on how we can best memorialize these fine people, especially with the holidays just around the corner? Treat birders with respect. Think before you send that e-mail. (E-mails can be very dangerous!) And send more good wishes to birders about their fine photography, great workshop, great story, great note and great e-mail that actually helped you understand more about bird behavior and identification.

I will try to do the same.

But remember, like you,
I'm only human.

Sheryl DeVore

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About Our Cover:

Barbara Williams created this issue's cover of Chimney Swifts migrating. Barbara has been a devoted student of natural history for many years and has been a birder since she saw her first Scarlet Tanager at the age of 4. She ran the biology department at the Burpee Museum of Natural History for 13 years. She lives in Rockford with her husband, Daniel.

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The long, slow exodus of Chimney Swifts in fall 2006

By Paul R. Clyne

Something went haywire in the migration synapses of Chimney Swifts (*Chaetura pelagica*) in northeastern Illinois in fall of 2006. For reasons unknown, and with not even a conjecture that has come to my attention, swifts remained widespread into November – more than three weeks past their usual departure date. The phenomenon did not involve isolated late singles, but rather the steady presence of flocks at numerous sites, particularly in Lake, Cook, and Du Page Counties. The last (and only previous) time such an event was noted in Illinois dates back to 1925.

Chimney Swifts "usually leave on a rigid schedule about mid October" (Bohlen 1989), with no significant variation in departure dates statewide (see Table 2). More generally, they tend to depart from their entire breeding range in North America by mid-October to early November for their wintering grounds in South America.

Cink & Collins' 2002 summary of Chimney Swift migration cites late September to mid- October as typical late dates over most of this species' range, extending to late October in South Carolina and Texas and to early November in Alabama. Bent (1940) provides one winter record: "During the winter of 1937-38..., two of these birds remained on the campus of the Louisiana State University, at Baton Rouge."

At Chicago's Jackson Park, where I've done most of my local birding, I've had reasonably good success at predicting the departure date of Chimney Swifts each year based on weather forecasts. They typically leave, often *en masse*, with the first cold snap in October. It's

not unusual to find scores, maybe even a couple hundred birds, through the departure date, then zero thereafter until their springtime return in April.

In 2006, Chicago weather conditions were perfect for an exodus of swifts the night of 11 October with an overnight low just below freezing

TABLE 1: Fall 2006 Chimney Swift reports from northeastern Illinois

DATE	NO.	CO.	SITE (OBSERVER(S))
25 Oct	1	Cook	Lincoln Park, Chicago (Geoffrey A. Williamson et al.)
	2	Cook	Oak Park (Greg Neise)
	2	Cook	over Eisenhower expressway, Chicago (Jill S. Anderson)
	28	Cook	Jackson Park, Chicago (Paul R. Clyne)
	48	Du Page	various sites (Peter A. Moxon)
	3	Kankakee	Kankakee (Jed B. Hertz)
26 Oct	15-20	Cook	over Eisenhower expressway, Chicago (Jill S. Anderson)
	10	Cook	Orland Park (Fran Morel)
	24	Du Page	various sites (Peter A. Moxon)
27 Oct	3	Du Page	(Peter A. Moxon)
28 Oct	numerous	Lake	Illinois Beach State Park hawk watch (Vic Berardi et al.)
	small #s	Lake	Lake County lakefront (Douglas F. Stotz)
	3	Cook	Evanston (Fran Morel)
	1	Cook	Montrose Harbor, Chieago (Sue Friscia, Cindy Alberico)
	23	Cook	migrating at Lincoln Park, Chicago (Greg Neise)
	15	Cook	Jackson Park, Chicago (Tom de Boor)
	70	Du Page	Greene Valley Forest Preserve hawk wateh (Robert E. Fisher et al.)
29 Oct	9	Lake	Mundelein and vicinity (Steven D. Bailey)
	24+	Lake	Fort Sheridan Forest Preserve (Roy E. Peterson)
	1	Cook	Brewyn (Greg Neise)
	41	Cook	Jackson Park, Chicago (Paul R. Clyne)
	70-80	Du Page	Greene Valley Forest Preserve hawk watch (Robert E. Fisher et al.)
	3	Kankakee	Kankakee (Jed B. Hertz)
30 Oct	37	Cook	northbound at Evanston (Fran Morel)
	several	Cook	Lincoln Park, Chicago (Emil J. Martinec et al.)
	30+	Cook	Thatcher Woods Forest Preserve, River Forest (Jill S. Anderson)
	9	Cook	Jackson Park, Chicago (Paul R. Clyne)
	30+	Du Page	Springbrook Prairie Forest Preserve (Peter A. Moxon)
	80	Du Page	southbound at Greene Valley Forest Preserve hawk watch (Robert E. Fisher et al.)
	1	Kankakee	Kankakee (Jed B. Hertz)

and wind-chills in the teens, followed by an unseasonably early snowfall the morning of 12 October accumulating to nearly half an inch and with a high of only 39°F. On 11 October, I tallied 256 Chimney Swifts in Chicago's Jackson Park and adjacent residential Hyde Park flying into a west wind, and I commented in my field log for the day, "...likely last of season based on forecast." Much to my surprise, I found 103 Chimney Swifts the morning of 12 October. The next day, wind-chills plummeted into the single digits, even at mid-afternoon, so the continued presence of Chimney Swifts on 14 October jarred my confidence in predicting departure dates for this species.

Temperatures for the rest of the month remained sub-normal, resulting in the coldest October in a decade at Chicago. On 31 October, swifts were not circling about foraging, but rather were moving directly south (or north!) in migration. I counted 182 swifts leaving Jackson Park and Hyde Park that morning, and I dared to remark in a post to IBET, the Illinois birding list-serve, "I don't expect to see this species here again until April, since today's birds were obviously on the move and weather is right for their final evacuation." The same date, Douglas F. Stotz of the Field Musuem of Natural History noted in an IBET post, "I think this may be the cold snap that finally drives them away."

The swifts proved us wrong. I found three Chimney Swifts the morning of 1 November, and a few additional were observed elsewhere in Cook County and in Du Page County the same day.

The Chicago forecast for 2 November called for a high of 39°F and overnight lows in the low 20°s — the coldest temperatures since February. Chicago's celebrated meteorologist Tom Skilling remarked that only six times in 135 years of weather data had it been this cold so early in the season. I was relieved to find no swifts in a quick walk through Jackson Park that morning. Then, on 4 November, there were Internet posts of swifts at two sites, including one at Jackson Park. My survey there the next morning yielded 21 Chimney Swifts, and a few score were reported at other northeastern Illinois sites that day.

Weather the next few days was uneventful, with highs in the mid-50s (warming to the mid-60s on 8-9 November), and lows in the mid-40s. The afternoon of 9 November, winds shifted to the northeast, and by late afternoon of 10 November winds were gusting upwards of 40 mph, accompanied by steady rain. Even with the strong winds, however, my home weather station showed maximum wind-chills on 10 November a few degrees warmer than on 12 October, and it was not until 30 November that wind-chills finally dove again into the single digits.

TABLE 1: Fall 2006 Chimney Swift reports, *continued*

DATE	NO.	CO.	SITE (OBSERVER(S))
31 Oct	74	Cook	southbound from 07:00-07:30, Lincoln Park, Chicago (Steven J. Huggins)
	23-25	Cook	Northerly Island, Chicago, to Glenview (Jeffrey R. Sanders et al.)
	14	Cook	Northerly Island, Chicago (Douglas F. Stotz)
	182	Cook	120 northbound in 2 flocks, 62 others, Jackson Park, Chicago (Paul R. Clyne)
	11	Du Page	southbound at Greene Valley Forest Preserve hawk watch (Robert E. Fisher et al.)
1 Nov	1	Cook	James Park, Evanston (Matthew Cvetas)
	2	Cook	Lincoln Park, Chicago (Kanae Hirabayashi)
	3	Cook	Jackson Park, Chicago (Paul R. Clyne)
	sm. groups	Du Page	a few locations (Peter A. Moxon)
2 Nov	no reports		
3 Nov	4	Cook	north side of Chicago and Evanston (Alex Bloss)
	5	Du Page	Blackwell Forest Preserve (Peter A. Moxon)
4 Nov	8	Cook	Evanston (Fran Morel)
	1	Cook	Jackson Park (Eric J. Ginsburg)
5 Nov	66	Cook/Lake	mostly at Glencoe (Cook Co) and Highland Park (Lake Co) (Geoffrey A. Williamson et al.)
	4	Cook	Evanston (Fran Morel)
	21	Cook	Jackson Park, Chicago (Paul R. Clyne)
	1	Cook	Lake Calumet, Chicago (Walter J. Marcisz)
	4	Du Page	Route 56 & Leask Lane (Peter A. Moxon)
6 Nov	1	Cook	Hyde Park, Chicago (Julia M. Putman)
	12	Cook	Jackson Park, Chicago (Paul R. Clyne)
7 Nov	12	Cook	Jackson Park, Chicago (Paul R. Clyne)
	6	Du Page	Fermilab (Peter A. Moxon)
8 Nov	1	Cook	Lincoln Park, Chicago (Geoffrey A. Williamson)
	1	Cook	Northerly Island, Chicago (Thomas S. Schulenberg)
	1	Cook	Jackson Park, Chicago (Paul R. Clyne)
	3	Du Page	Greene Valley Forest Preserve (Robert E. & Karen D. Fisher)
9 Nov	2	Cook	Montrose Harbor, Chicago (Robert D. Hughes)
	9	Cook	Lincoln Park, Chicago (Steven J. Huggins)
	1	Du Page	Downers Grove (Robert E. & Karen D. Fisher)
10 Nov	2	Cook	Northerly Island, Chicago (Douglas F. Stotz)

My last Chimney Swift at Jackson Park was a lone bird on 8 November There were reports from three sites in northeastern Illinois on 9 November and from one site on 10 November but none thereafter. It is unclear why 10 November – as opposed to 11 October or 31 October or 2 November – ended up being the last date of occurrence, although perhaps wind direction was a key factor. Northeast winds always foretell low numbers of small land birds along the Chicago lakefront. Prior to 9 November, the only date since 10 October showing significant northeasterly winds was 27 October, on which date Chimney Swifts (3) were reported only well inland, in Du Page County. None of the few IBET posts from 27 October mention swifts elsewhere in the area; I have no data from Jackson Park on that date.

Table 1 summarizes the IBET posts of Chimney Swift sightings in Illinois from 25 October through their departure date in 2006. I've included a few Jackson Park data that were not posted to IBET.

Elsewhere in Illinois, Chimney Swifts were found later than average this fall, but less remarkably so than in the northeastern part of the state, with the exception of a single at Springfield (Sangamon Co) on 7 November (Rhetta L. Jack). Other representative late dates include 20 October (a few) at Galesburg (Knox Co) (D. James Mountjoy); 21 October (up to 20) at Urbana (Champaign Co) (*fide* Steven D. Bailey); 22 October (3), Lake Decatur (Macon Co) (Travis A. Mahan); and 26 October (1), St. Clair County (Keith A. McMullen).

Chimney Swifts staged a parallel late departure along the Indiana lakefront the fall of 2006, including 287 eastbound along Lake Michigan on 17 October; 39 at four sites on 21 October; 5 in Highland on 30 October; 3 at Gary on 4 November; and one in Highland on 9 November. The previous late date for the Indiana lakefront area is 15 October 1990 (Kenneth J. Brock, pers. comm.). Chimney Swifts also lingered late in Wisconsin, through 26 October in southern Milwaukee County (R. C. Domagalski, pers. comm.).

Widmann (1928) discusses the unusual presence of big numbers of Chimney Swifts in November of 1925 at St. Louis, Missouri, and adjacent parts of Illinois, with additional information from Lawrenceville (Lawrence Co) and Quincy (Adams Co). Widmann includes St. Louis records of eight swifts on 6 November, an unspecified number on 7 November, and a single on 8 November. In addition, he quotes an article in the *St. Louis Times* of 14 November involving the removal of more than 500 dead "swallows" (=swifts) from a chimney at Edwardsville (Madison Co);

TABLE 2: Illinois Chimney Swift departure dates, 1974-2005

YEAR	NORTH	CENTRAL	SOUTH	JACKSON PARK	ILLINOIS
1974	14 Oct	20 Oct	23Nov		23 Nov
1975	7 Oct	15 Oct	15 Oct		15 Oct
1976	18 Oct	18 Oct	14 Oct		18 Oct
1977	14 Oct	17 Oct	10 Oct		17 Oct
1978	13 Oct	22 Oct	16 Oct		22 Oct
1979	29 Oct	20 Oct	11 Oct	15 Oct	29 Oct
1980	12 Oct	11 Oct	15 Oct	7 Oct	15 Oct
1981	19 Oct	17 Oct	14 Oct	15 Oct	19 Oct
1982	13 Oct	18 Oct	15 Oct	13 Oct	18 Oct
1983	16 Oct	24 Oct	25 Oct	10 Oct	25 Oct
1984	15 Oct	18 Oct	27 Oct	12 Oct	27 Oct
1985	16 Oct	14 Oct	27 Oct	14 Oct	27 Oct
1986	27 Oct	17 Oct	25 Oct	18 Oct	27 Oct
1987	25 Oct	17 Oct	19 Oct	25 Oct	25 Oct
1988	30 Oct			30 Oct	30 Oct
1989	11 Oct	17 Oct	24 Oct	8 Oct	24 Oct
1990	21 Oct	15 Oct	17 Oct	13 Oct	21 Oct
1991	2 Nov			22 Oct	2 Nov
1992	14 Oct	18 Oct	10 Oct	12 Oct	18 Oct
1993	11 Oct	7 Oct	7 Oct	10 Oct	11 Oct
1994	12 Oct	19 Oct1	9 Oct	17 Oct	19 Oct
1995	23 Oct	14 Oct		12 Oct	23 Oct
1996	15 Oct	17 Oct		12 Oct	17 Oct
1997		15 Oct	16 Oct	11 Oct	16 Oct
1998		18 Oct	18 Oct	11 Oct	18 Oct
1999	16 Oct		16 Oct	11 Oct	16 Oct
2000	14 Oct	15 Oct	19 Oct	3 Oct	19 Oct
2001	25 Oct	24 Oct	22 Oct	25 Oct	25 Oct
2002	10 Nov		15 Oct	18 Oct	10 Nov
2003	16 Oct	13 Oct		11 Oct	16 Oct
2004	8 Oct	16 Oct	24 Oct	6 Oct	24 Oct
2005	19 Oct		14 Oct	14 Oct	19 Oct
MEAN	**17 Oct**	**16 Oct**	**17 Oct**	**13 Oct**	**21 Oct**

these were "...believed to have entered the chimney several days ago and after two days of bad draft on the furnace the chimney was examined."

Robert Ridgway wrote to Widmann on two occasions regarding Mrs. Ridgway's sightings of Chimney Swifts in November at Lawrenceville. In a letter dated 6 November 1925, he noted, "...Mrs. Ridgway ...saw them every evening (this evening included) pouring down the chimneys of the High School building, by thousands. She says their numbers are undiminished...." Widmann continues, "On a later date Mr. Ridgway wrote me that Mrs. Ridgway watched the swifts carefully and found them in summer numbers up to November 13, but next morning (November 14) there were very few flying about the chimney and then disappeared."

Widmann further quotes T. E. Musselman's observations at Quincy that fall:

"In 1925 few swifts were seen about town during the day time after the middle of October; but at dusk as many as five or six hundred circled over the favorite chimneys.... On October 28 a severe snowstorm forced the swifts into the chimneys. The next morning at eight o'clock I climbed the Wabash chimney and found probably three hundred swifts.... At 9:30 A. M. on October 29, a number of birds left the chimney and circled, flying among the snowflakes for five minutes.... All day the temperature was about 32° and few birds left their retreat.... On the 30th the day was cold, but the swifts were out for exercise. On the 31st it was much warmer and many birds were out.... A few fell exhausted on the snow.... The cold weather continued and on November 16 the last swift circled over the town and departed for the south."

The fall of 1925, like that of 2006, was cold. Widmann remarks that his surprise at Chimney Swifts seen on 6 November ì...would not have been so great, if an ordinarily mild October had preceded, but at the end of October and the first two days of November we had seven days of freezing weather. Once (October 30) the temperature was as low as 21∫ here in [St. Louis], and16∫ in the county—the lowest temperature of any October day in sixty-two years."

I assembled fall departure data for the years 1974-2005 from northern, central, and southern Illinois for this species based on the available records in the seasonal reports originally compiled by Vernon M. Kleen for the Illinois Department of Conservation and later continued in the quarterly publications *Illinois Birds & Birding* and *Meadowlark.* See Table 2, which also includes data from a single site (Chicago's Jackson Park), for which I have data from a slightly shorter time-frame.

The 32 years of data show mean departure dates falling 16-17 Oct for all three sections of the state, and a statewide mean of 21 Oct. There are but three previous November records in the seasonal summaries: 2 Nov 1991, Wilmette (Cook Co) (James E. Landing et al.); 10 Nov 2002 (not 11 Nov as published—Robert E. Fisher, pers. comm.), McGinnis Slough, Palos area (Cook Co) (documented by Robert E. & Karen D. Fisher); and 23 Nov 1974, Carbondale (Jackson Co) (documented by Dan Klem). The last two dates stand out in particular, and it appears that these were indeed anomalous dates within their respective years of occurrence. The latest dates otherwise reported anywhere in the state for those seasons were 19 Oct in 2002 (at Illinois Beach State Park (Lake Co) (Alan F. Stokie)), and 20 Oct in 1974 (in west-central Illinois).

Other than the 1925 event and the three dates just mentioned, I'm aware of only two additional November records for Illinois prior to 2006. The first is a vague datum in Bohlen 1989: 6 Nov (no year cited), west-central Illinois. The other involves a dead swift "with newly exposed viscera" noted by Joshua I. Engel in a parking lot in Evanston (Cook Co) on 16 Nov 1998 (*Meadowlark* 9.2:74); just when this individual expired is unclear.

The curious late departure in 2006, like that in 1925, will likely prove to be a fluke, and one pending explanation, but there is some evidence for a modern trend toward later departure dates by Chimney Swifts.

Oberholser 1926 provides an important, old summary of Chimney Swift migration (chiefly from data in the Biological Survey) for 57 sites in eastern North America (west to Grafton, North Dakota). His average departure dates for the three Illinois sites included are substantially earlier than those found in modern records (see Table 3). Indeed, the *latest* date cited for Chicago matches the second *earliest* Jackson Park departure date in my records.

TABLE 3: Illinois departure dates for Chimney Swifts, from Oberholser 1926

SITE	COUNTY	AVERAGE	LATEST	# OF YEARS
Chicago	Cook	18 Sep	6 Oct 1907	5
Rantoul	Champaign	19 Sep	11 Oct 1910	8
Odin	Marion	27 Sep	4 Oct 1890	5

More generally, of the 22 sites at the latitude of Chicago or farther north, all show average departures in September or late August. The most northerly site showing an average departure date comparable to the recent Jackson Park average comes from a site 6∫ latitude south of Chicago—Athens, Tennessee (13 Oct in 8 years of records). Three of the four November late dates noted by Oberholser come from southern states (Louisiana, Florida, and South Carolina) and are confined to the first five days of November. The one striking late date comes from Richmond, Indiana, on 13 Nov 1906.

I have not re-reviewed Oberholser's sources from the late 19th and early 20th centuries, but his data doubtless suffer from small sample sizes (averaging 7.7 years of records for the 57 sites, with extremes of 2-30 years), and I don't know the specifics on the very important variable of consistency of field surveys during, in particular, the month of October for the reporting sites.

For northeastern Illinois, however, we are fortunate to have William Dreuth's detailed study of bird migration at Chicago's Lincoln Park for the years 1928-1943, as summarized in Clark & Nice 1950. Dreuth never recorded a Chimney Swift in October, despite the fact that he averaged 24 dates of field surveys each October over his 16-year study. By contrast, my table of records from Chicago's Jackson Park for the period 1979-2006 never failed to include Chimney Swift data in October. Dreuth's average departure date from the first half of the last century is 12 September, while mine from the latter quarter and into the current century is 13 Oct. Dreuth's latest date of observation was 30 September 1936, while the latest for Jackson Park (prior to 2006) is 30 Oct 1988. These discrepancies are significant and are not based on any increase in dates of field surveys.

Three observers posted their personal late Chimney Swift sightings from recent years to IBET with data for the years 1994-2005 at various sites in northeastern Illinois from Urs W. Geiser (mostly Du Page County) and from Douglas F. Stotz (mostly Cook County), and for the years 1999-2005 from Geoffrey A. Williamson at Chicago. Their results are similar to the Jackson Park records and consistently show departure dates in October (averaging 9-11 Oct).

It is worth underscoring here an important and unusually irrelevant factor when it comes to comparing modern bird records to those from the first half of the last century. Namely, as there is no other colorless, small bird in eastern North America that is both so visible (given its preferred habitat as open sky) and so readily identifiable to the naked eye as the Chimney Swift, modern advances in field identification and optical equipment would seem to have notably little bearing on the comparability of records over time for this particular species.

Under the heading, "Priorities for Future Research" on Chimney Swifts, Cink & Collins (p. 20) remark, "Also unknown is how the timing of migration is influenced by local weather events." The phenomena of 1925 and 2006 render this an understatement.

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All Chimney Swift photos were taken by Michael Brown, Indiana Audubon Society.

Illinois Beach State Park Hawk Watch records first Swainson's Hawks

By Vic Berardi

Juvenile Swainson's Hawk trapped and banded by Mike Jones at Chiwaukee Prairie, Wisconsin, just north of Lake County, Illinois on the morning of 25 September 2006. Photo by Mike Jones.

It is highly probable that this is the same juvenile seen at the Illinois Beach State Park Hawk Watch on the late afternoon of 24 September 2006.

The first Swainson's Hawk (*Buteo swainsoni*) at the Illinois Beach State Park Hawk Watch, was recorded 24 September 2006; with a second less than a month later.

Volunteers and I have been conducting this hawk watch for seven years, at the state park, situated along Lake Michigan in northern Lake County, Illinois. Steve Huggins, Paul Sweet, Matthew Fletcher and I remember that first sighting of Swainson's Hawk during the count in 2006 very well.

That particular Sunday in late September began with overcast skies and a light northerly wind. Weather conditions improved by late morning and a fair number of raptors began to move through. We recorded 10 species with more than 100 raptors that day, including Red-tailed Hawk, Bald Eagle, Sharp-shinned Hawk, Merlin and Peregrine Falcon. Shortly after 5 p.m. we saw a Peregrine Falcon carrying what appeared to be a gull. While we were discussing the identification of the gull (hawk watchers get bored sometimes), I noticed a hawk that looked quite different rise over the hazy horizon to the north.

"Take a look at this bird," I said to Paul.

"Very interesting," he replied. "What do you think it is?"

"I want to say it's a Rough-legged Hawk but it appears to be brown," I said. "Could it be a harrier?"

Steve and Matthew asked us what we were looking at. I pointed to the direction of the bird (remember, hawk watchers look for specks, this bird was slightly larger than a speck.)

They immediately got on the bird and Steve found it in his scope. We were all a bit confused as we looked at an apparent buteo, brownish in color, with an upward curve to its wings.

Then Paul said the magic words, "Guys, is this a Swainson's Hawk?" I say magic because immediately everything registered in our heads. Yes, that's exactly what we were looking at.

As Steve recalls, "We waited for the hawk to pass over to confirm the identification but as is typical for hawk watching, the bird went back north."

We compared notes and came to the conclusion it was a juvenile because it was very clean underneath and we never saw a strong two tone contrast in the underwing typical of adult Swainson's Hawks.

Paul drove up to the Illinois border a mile or so north of us to try and locate the bird but wasn't successful. However, the following day I received a call on my cell phone from Rob Sulski that a juvenile Swainson's Hawk was trapped and banded Monday, 25 September by Mike Jones at Chiwaukee Prairie, Wisconsin, which is a quarter mile from the Illinois border directly north of the hawk watch.

One month later a second Swainson's Hawk, an adult that passed directly overhead was seen on 22 October at the Illinois Beach State Park Hawk Watch. Observers recorded more than 800 raptors that day. This was, then, the second Swainson's Hawk seen at the hawk watch in seven years, and within less than a month's time.

The 2006 hawk count at Illinois Beach State Park was the second best year in the site's seven-year history. Observers recorded 7,362 raptors from 26 August to 26 November. To see all of our data, visit www.hawkcount.org.

— Vic Berardi
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Editor's Note: As this issue went to press, the indefatigable Illinois Beach State Park hawk watchers added a third Swainson's Hawk to their list 14 September 2007.

IOS awards two grants for research

on Red-headed Woodpeckers and American Golden-Plovers in Illinois

One of IOS's objectives is "to promote scientific research and education in order to improve knowledge and awareness of birds in Illinois." This year, IOS is proud to award two $500 research grants, one to Megan Atterberry-Jones and the other to Benjamin J. O'Neal. Their projects are detailed below, and at the end of this article you can find out more about the IOS grant programs and how you can help.

Megan Atterberry-Jones of Western Illinois University will be studying the Red-headed Woodpecker (*Melanerpes erythrocephalus*) population at Spring Lake Park, in Macomb, Illinois. Her goal is to determine whether a link exists between telephone poles, high density populations, and cooperative breeding behavior in the Red-Headed Woodpeckers at this location.

Megan Atterberry-Jones with a Red-headed Woodpecker.

Red-headed Woodpecker populations have declined steadily over the past several decades. One of the possible reasons is loss of dead trees and snags used by these woodpeckers as nesting and food storage sites. Current conservation management plans for this species propose retaining dead trees and tree limbs, but aesthetic and safety issues often prevent these plans from being implemented.

Some Melanerpes woodpeckers are known for cooperative breeding behavior. Anecdotal observations suggest that Red-headed Woodpeckers may also occasionally breed cooperatively. The study site, Spring Lake Park, has an extremely high density of Red-headed Woodpeckers.

Based on some preliminary data, there appear to be many more woodpeckers than nesting territories, suggesting the Spring Lake population is cooperatively breeding. The study question: What is so unique about this area that allows it to support such a high density of woodpeckers? One obvious feature that distinguishes Spring Lake Park is the large number of telephone poles. This study aims to determine if telephone poles make this habitat so productive that the younger Red-headed Woodpeckers remain on their natal territories to assist their parents, rather than attempting to form their own breeding territories in poor habitats.

Benjamin J. O'Neal of the University of Illinois will be studying American Golden-Plovers (*Pluvialis dominica*). His goal is to determine habitat preferences of this species during migration through Illinois.

Benjamin J. O'Neal

The Grand Prairie was once a continuous expanse of grassland, dotted with marshes and wet meadows, serving as essential stopover habitat for Arctic-bound shorebirds. Although the landscape of Illinois has changed drastically, some shorebird species still stop over each spring. Tens to hundreds of thousands of American Golden-Plovers pass through east-central Illinois during their transcontinental flight from wintering to breeding grounds. In most years, Illinois supports a substantial portion of the hemispheric population. Like many Arctic-breeding shorebirds, the American Golden-Plover population appears to be declining, and is listed as a species of high concern by the United States Shorebird Conservation Plan.

Birders and biologists have reported large congregations of this species throughout our region, but few data have been recorded to document area-wide abundances. American Golden-Plovers are one of the few bird species that appear to coexist/use the agriculturally dominated landscape of east-central Illinois. Migrant flocks are most often observed in row crop fields, especially soybean stubble. Beyond that association, little is known about the types of habitat selected for foraging and roosting. These flexible foragers apparently are not limited by habitat in a landscape dominated by seemingly uniform row crop production, but have been shown to concentrate in a small number of fields. This pattern suggests they may rely on a specific combination of conditions to select stopover habitat that is both safe from predators and saturated with the high protein invertebrates necessary to fulfill their high energetic demands in a short time.

Volunteer student technicians from the University of Illinois chapter of The Wildlife Society will conduct concurrent roadside surveys at the peak of migration during spring of 2007-2009, focusing on counties with the highest historic American Golden-Plover abundances based on the Illinois Spring Bird Counts and seasonal reports from *Meadowlark*. In addition to abundance estimates, the project plans to document and analyze the characteristics of habitat used by plovers, including crop type, tillage practice, relative moisture, and landscape position.

This project could contribute to future conservation efforts for American Golden-Plovers, by documenting the number and proportion of this species that migrate through Illinois, and by identifying priority locations that reliably

host large numbers. Furthermore, the data on habitat associations will help inform the management of this species and its habitat by yielding recommendations applicable to intensively farmed landscapes and compatible with agriculture in the region. The Illinois Wildlife Action Plan includes a critical need within the Farmland Campaign to "emphasize the multiple resource benefits of conservation in agricultural landscapes." This study will help underpin this goal by identifying land management practices that can be implemented in the context of intensive row-crop agriculture, to benefit migrant shorebird populations like the American Golden-Plover.

American Golden-Plover photo by Steve Spitzer taken at Montrose, Cook County in July 2007.

Both Megan and Benjamin will prepare a summary article for *Meadowlark* when their respective projects are completed. We look forward to reading the results.

Seven grant requests were received this year from applicants at six different Illinois colleges and universities. All were worthwhile and the selection of the two finally chosen was difficult. Thanks to Steve Bailey and Jeff Walk for their work analyzing the requests and for their recommendations.

Funds for the grants are raised from IOS activities such as the Gull Frolic, IOS field trips, Big Day pledges and the silent auction at our annual meeting. Your IOS Board would like to raise additional sums to fund more of the requests. To this end, the Board has set up an IOS Grant Fund Donation Program to accept contributions during the year to add to the funding provided by other activities.

Contributions should be mailed to IOS, Grant Program, P. O. Box 931, Lake Forest, IL 60045.

If you wish to provide endowment funds to endow an individual grant, contact Michael Hogg, IOS President at (847) 564-7763 or e-mail to mhkiwi@aol.com.

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IN MEMORIAM

Birders, friends, teachers

Ben Gelman, Jerry Kumery, James E. Landing

BEN GELMAN (1920-2007)

I have often wondered what my life would be like without birds, without their bright colors, their wonderful ability to fly, their early-morning songs, their comforting presence at our backyard feeders. It has always seemed to me that an important way to protect the birds is to interest as many people as possible in their welfare and in conserving their habitat.

— Ben Gelman

Ben Gelman, a writer, editor, columnist and photographer for the Southern Illinoisan from 1956 until 1982, died July 21, 2007 in Carbondale at the age of 86. Born in New York, Ben brought the world of birds to the general public with his well-known column, Byline BG. The columns were printed in a book called Bird Watching with Ben, published by Quick Publishing. In 1982, he began working as editor of the weekly university paper, SIU Courier where he retired in 1995.

Ben was a wonderful person and a great photo-journalist; kind, friendly and non-judgmental. Ben did more to introduce the general public in southern Illinois to birds and birding than anyone. This he did through his weekly column Byline BG that appeared in the Southern Illinoisan. Ben would write on what was happening at his backyard feeder as well as what took place at the yearly Crab Orchard National Wildlife Refuge Christmas Bird Count, which he compiled for many years. He also wrote on other nature-related topics and on the history of southern Illinois for many publications. Ben was nominated for a Pulitzer Prize in the 1960s for a story he wrote about the financial scandal surrounding the construction of Stone House on the Southern Illinois University campus.

He began his birding career as a child in New York. He had a circle of birding friends, which included Roger Tory Peterson. Ben would go birding all day then report back to his brother, Murray Gell-mann (old family spelling), of all the great birds he'd seen.

— Rhonda Rothrock, Pomona

JERRY KUMERY (1934-2007)

Birder, nature photographer and world traveler Jerry Kumery, 73, died September 16, 2007. A generous, gracious and humble man, Jerry provided professional photographs and programs to organizations and publications including Save the Prairie Society, Forest Preserve District of DuPageCounty, Illinois Ornithological Society, Chicago Wilderness and the National Audubon Society, among many others. Birders knew Jerry who lived with his wife, Jackie, in Brookfield, Illinois, as a conservationist, humorist and a fine artist. Here are some memories.

Beauty of birds

I feel very lucky to have seen so many of Jerry's amazing photos. My favorites were in Churchill where every photo Jerry crafted caught the bird in perfect plumage and perfect light showing the birds in various mottled plumages. He was on a quest to reveal the amazing beauty of birds to the rest of us and he was wonderfully successful at it.

– Jody Zamirowski
Glen Ellyn

Messy warbler

Two springs ago there was a fallout day at Montrose (Cook County), and there was a mystery warbler in one of the large locust trees across from the Magic Hedge. It was quite plain but had orange around the mouth. Birders were calling other birders to come to see the bird. No one knew what it was. Later that evening Jerry Kumery posted a photo on IBET, the Illinois birding list serve. He had gone home, looked through his photos, found some pictures of the bird, and realized that it was a Tennessee Warbler with nectar around its mouth. His post reported the identification and commented, "Someone hand that bird a napkin!"

– Rena Wish Cohen

World traveler Jerry Kumery took this photo of a church in Iceland during one of his many nature tours with his wife, Jackie.

Jerry Kumery shared his passion for birds through photography. Here is a portrait of a Harlequin Duck he took in March 2007 on the lakefront in Chicago.

Legacy

Jerry's photos are the heart of several of the City of Chicago's bird-related outreach and policy pieces. He shared them with us with great generosity and good humor. We will miss working with him as a collaborator on our bird-related efforts, but his legacy is with us in the Chicago Bird Agenda, the Chicago Region Bird Trail Guide, and the soon-to-be printed Chicago bird habitat design guidelines. He will be dearly missed.

– Sarah Beazley
Project Coordinator
Chicago Department of Environment;
and Joyce Coffee

JAMES E. LANDING (1928-2007)

Illinois and Indiana birders and conservationists lost a great birder, friend, historian and activist when Dr. James "Jim" Landing, 78, passed away Sept. 3, 2007. Jim was born Jan. 7, 1928 in Buffalo, New York, then moved to Indiana where he grew up and began birding. He later moved to Illinois and continued his passion for birding. In a recent post on IBET, Jim reported he had 395 bird specie in Illinois, which would place him second on the latest Illinois Ornithological Society's Listers Corner, state high count.

But more than a lister, he was also an educator. He lead countless bird trips for Chicago-area bird groups, taught many new birders about the hobby, and gave a number of programs and talks about birds and bird-related topics.

Although he birded throughout Illinois, Indiana, Wisconsin and elsewhere, his favorite spotswere the Lake Calumet wetlands and Lincoln Park, especially Montrose Harbor, the Magic Hedge, Montrose Point and the Jarvis Bird Sanctuary.

Over the years, Jim worked behind the scenes in so many aspects, with the Chicago Park District and area bird clubs, to save the vegetation in the Magic Hedge, and have additional plantings put in (and kept alive) to enhance migrant bird habitat.

He helped Bill Jarvis in the maintenance of the Lincoln Park Bird Sanctuary (which later was named for Mr. Jarvis). He could be found there at any time of the year, educating birders of all ages. Without his assistance, Montrose Point would not be what it is today.

What I will remember Jim for most though, is his constant and long-lived work in helping to save the very important bird habitat of the Lake Calumet wetlands. When the expansion of dumps in the area threatened to destroy what wetlands remained there, in 1980, he organized the Lake Calumet Study Committee, which was an umbrella organization of dozens of birding, conservation and environmental groups. For as long as that organization existed, he worked hard, both with the groups involved, but also with the southeast Chicago residents, and politicians and whatever it took, to protect habitat in that area. In a report Jim gave about the LakeCalumet Study Committee's involvement in protecting Lake Calumet area habitat, he wrote

"During the period of the Lake Calumet Study Committee, not one acre of targeted wetlands was lost to industry or municipal purposes. They are all still there"

This is THE testament to Jim's hard labor, and all that he managed to do over the years behind the scenes.

Jim was also in the forefront in helping to defeat the proposal to put an airport in the Calumet area (1992). He later put together an exhaustive proposal for a Calumet Ecological Park — a national park. That never came to be, but in part due to Jim's laying the ground for it, the City of Chicago now has purchased many of the Calumet wetlands, and they will be saved as natural habitat, for birds and other local native flora and fauna.

Jim Landing taught Geography at the University of Illinois at Chicago for decades, bringingconservation issues into his classroom whenever he could.

Jim was also a prolific writer – among his works while at University of Illinois, was his history book, Black Judaism. His Montrose Musings on IBET, the Illinois birding listserv, often would mention the history of birding and birders in Illinois and Indiana, and were a wealth of information. He wrote articles for both *Meadowlark: A Journal of Illinois Birds* and *Illinois Birds & Birding* and *Illinois Audubon* magazine. In the *Meadowlark*, he delved into his favorite subject – gulls – and offered his advice and wisdom on identifying this difficult group of birds.

In fact, he helped begin along with Dave Johnson the popular Gull Frolic in northern Lake County, which has become THE meeting place for birders in winter – not only to learn more about gulls but also to share camaraderie and the joy of birding.

Jim served as Conservation Chair and later Public Land Use Chair of the Chicago Audubon Society. He received the Protector of the Environment, Single Act Award from Chicago Audubon Society in 1981. He will be sincerely missed by many for the friend that he was, and his helpfulness in so many ways. This is a true loss for Illinois birds and birders.

– Alan B. Anderson
Des Plaines
Chicago Audubon Society

Jim Landing stands next to a sign at the Magic Hedge in Chicago. He was instrumental in helping protect the Montrose Point region.

Jim Landing took this photo of a California Gull, one of two birds present, at Calumet Park, Cook County on 23 January 2000. Jim Landing loved gulls and was an expert at identifying them.

Here are other tributes to Jim Landing.

Passionate about gulls

While I never got to know Jim personally, I certainly got to know him as a birder and my closest association with him was when he singlehandedly started the Gull Frolic at the Winthrop Harbor Yacht Club in northeastern Illinois in February, some six years ago. This birding event is one of Jim's legacies for the Chicago birding community. After winter cabin fever, nearly every birder in the area now attends this event.

Jim loved gulls and gull identification and one of his last posts on IBET, was about a recent gull identification guide for birders. This dedicated Larophile recommended, A reference guide to the gulls of the Americas. Chumming for gulls was one of Jim's great past-times.

Jim also developed other birding workshops hawk, shorebird, and sparrow identification for birders to enjoy.

I first met Jim in the early 80s, often at Montrose or Lake Calumet Sewage pond. He also loved the Medusa Cement area of Lake Calumet when the first Great Black-backed Gulls in the Chicago area could be found in winter. I remember one day when we both got to see a Ruff and Curlew Sandpiper in one day in the Calumet Lake area. Jim was elated!

Jim also saw the need for citizen science and practiced often the documentation of rare bird sightings. He was one of a handful of birders who documented the spring observation of a male Williamson's Sapsucker in a Chicago neighborhood off the expressway. This record, to date, is the only record of that species for Illinois.

– David B. Johnson
Buffalo Grove

Jim Landing, who had at least 395 species of birds in Illinois on his list, took this photo of a Wood Stork at Sanganois Conservation Area in Mason County, 5 August 1992.

Sharing knowledge

Many of us had the opportunity to meet Jim Landing in the field or at one of the informative gatherings that he organized for the birding community. He was always approachable and gave generously to others from his birding expertise and knowledge of the natural world about us. I owe a lifer or two to Jim. He was a leader, an organizer and an activist.

I recall once meeting Jim on a cold winter's day, in late February 2003, along the North Branch of the Chicago River. The location was Rowan Park and the occasion was the close- up sighting of a female Harlequin Duck. She was diving into the churning pool of water created by the small dam in the river. What can I say? The location was the best Chicago had to offer as a substitute for the rocky Atlantic coast.

Here comes Jim; walking along the sidewalk, alone, and typically underdressed for the cold weather. He spoke with the few of us gathered along the walk. He said that our little avian visitor had a "sweet face." A birder pointed out a strange-looking goose on the water. Jim explained that it was a domesticated goose. These confusing domestic escapees can be a bane to new birders, as they do not make it into many field guides. Jim understood and provided the information without condescension.

I have a folder of Montrose Musings, which Jim wrote on IBET, Montrose Musings is a testament to Jim, the great writer. I took a look at the last IBET posting of Jim's that I saved. It is dated June 6, 2007. He ended his message with the following words:

"I have lived through the days when birding was considered to be only for a few eccentrics to a point where it is one of the most common outdoor activities in the United States. I am proud and pleased to have been along for that ride!"

– Pat Durkin
Chicago

Searching for rarities

Dave Johnson reminded me of the Black-throated Gray Warbler on the canal. I had called Jim at work to tell him about it, and he arrived without his binoculars! He had lent his car to someone that day and had his binoculars in the trunk, so he had to borrow another friend's car to come and see the bird, not knowing that it would hang around for about a week.

When the Williamson's Sapsucker was in the Chicago neighborhood, I worked until 8 or later that night, and by the time I got there it was well past sunset, but Jim still had the bird's location, and it was visible in a streetlight! How many of you have ever gone out looking for a woodpecker in the dark?

I remember all of the chumming we used to do by Rocky's fish shack at Navy Pier, which is long gone now. And I won't forget the Lake Calumet Dairy Queen stops. That was a mandatory stop after a hot day of shorebirding.

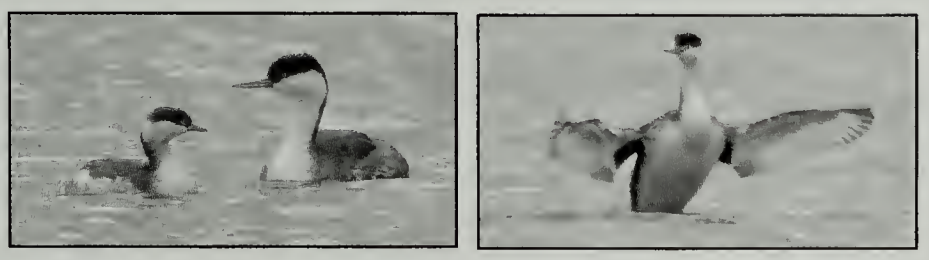
– Richard Biss, Lake Villa

Thank you Ben, Jerry and Jim for all you gave to the Illinois birding and conservation community.

by Sheryl DeVore

Western and Red-necked Grebes: From one slough to another

The Western Grebe, a rare, but regular migrant in Illinois, made some fine appearances in the prairie state during the fall 2006 season. They were found in downstate reservoirs, a typical location for this species in fall, including Crab Orchard National Wildlife Refuge and Lake Carlyle, as well as at Montrose, Cook County in November (see Fields Notes in this issue for details). But folks living in the Palos, Cook County region had fun observing a Western Grebe for nearly a month. Bob Hughes, Bob Fisher and other birders reported the Western Grebe 7 October 2006 at McGinnis Slough, Cook County. Many birders were able to view the Western Grebe and compare it with the much smaller Horned Grebe, as well as another rare Illinois grebe, the Red-necked Grebe that were seen off and on at the same location. On one date, 10 October 2006, Evan Graff saw two Red-necked Grebes along with the Western at McGinnis.



Western Grebe at Saganashkee Slough, Palos Hills, Cook County. 22 October 2006. Photos by Jerry Kumery. The photo with two birds shows a Western Grebe and the smaller Horned Grebe for comparison. This was possibly the same bird seen earlier in October at McGinnis Slough, three miles south.

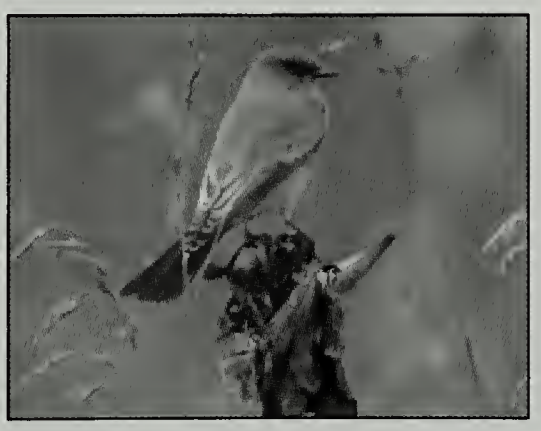
Toward middle October, the Western Grebe appeared to have left McGinnis Slough. But on 21 October 2006, Wes Serafin found a Western Grebe (possibly the same one) at Saganashkee Slough, roughly 3 miles north of McGinnis. So birders moved their scopes to observe the species there. Photographer Jerry Kumery even caught the grebe in the act of flapping wings and appearing to dance on the water.

It was apparently last seen at Saganashkee 29 October 2006 by Carolyn and Chuck Fields and Pete Moxon. In addition, three Red-necked Grebes were reported at Saganashkee Slough by Walter Marcisz on 22 October 2006, with one still being seen 29 October 2006.

For Say's Phoebe, visit a hawk watch

Matthew Fletcher discovered a Say's Phoebe at 9:10 a.m. Saturday, 22 September 2006 at the Illinois Beach State Park hawk watch pavilion in Lake County. He observed it perched on mullein and blazing stars in a prairie patch. His report brought other birders out to the park that day to enjoy this "casual," formerly "accidental" visitor to the state, based on Illinois Ornithological Records Committee occurrence designations. The bird was last seen at the park around 4 p.m. by Anthony Friend, the next day, Sunday, 23 September 2006, this time just north and west of the Dunes Day Use parking lot.

No one found the Say's Phoebe at the park the next day, but lo and behold while leaving the Greene Valley Hawkwatch in DuPage County for lunch 23 September 2006, Bob and Karen Fisher saw another one.



Say's Phoebe at Illinois Beach State Park, Lake County. 22 September 2006. Photo by Matthew Fletcher.

"I stopped the car just a hundred feet or so from the hilltop parking lot to re-close our rear hatch (the open door light was blinking on the dash)," Bob Fisher reported. He walked back to get into the SUV when Karen said "Look, there's a Say's Phoebe just a few feet in front of the car."

"The phoebe was less than 30 feet away, perched on a clump of grass just off the edge of the gravel road," said Bob Fisher."The bird was unmistakable with its gray head, breast and mantle; faint wing bars; a rusty/rufous belly and undertail coverts; and a solid black tail. The bird also pumped its tail in typical phoebe fashion."

"What are the odds of two Say's Phoebes showing up in northeastern Illinois in a three-day period?" Fisher mused. "I feel pretty confident the Illinois Beach bird didn't suddenly decide to fly 70 miles southwest on Saturday night," he said. "But you never know...

— Sheryl DeVore
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Reflections on backyard birding throughout Illinois

by Robert Fisher

Every birder's back yard needs a dead or dying tree – or at least a big dead branch in an otherwise live tree. When you think about it, how many times have you had some mystery bird (especially one of those pesky warblers) flitting around in dense foliage, providing nothing more than brief, tantalizing glimpses? Then suddenly, they pop out onto a dead branch – or better yet – fly into a nearby dead or leafless tree, giving you an exceptional look at – another Butter Butt, aka Yellow-rumped Warbler. All you can think of is I was so sure it had to be something good: a Worm-eating, or a Cerulean! Well, you get the idea...though on rare occasions, it actually turns out to be some highly sought after species, and you get the best look you've had in years.

But dead/dying trees do a lot more than provide "Wasn't-that-a-great-look" gratification to birders. They serve myriad functions for the birds all around us, from nest cavities or platforms, to perches for territorial behavior, to food sources, to sentinel or lookout locations, even to shelters for some species. Wildlife biologists commonly use the term "snag" as synonymous with "dead tree" and numerous Internet websites emphasize the importance of snags, especially for birds, but also for other wildlife.

At least 26 native Illinois breeding species and 3 non-native species use tree cavities for nesting. The list of Illinois cavity nesters encompasses a wide spectrum of bird families. It includes two ducks (Wood Duck and Hooded Merganser), American Kestrel, three owls (Barn, Screech and Barred), Chimney Swift, our seven species of woodpecker, Great Crested Flycatcher, Tree Swallow, both our chickadee species, Tufted Titmouse, both nuthatches, three wrens (Carolina, Bewick's and House), Eastern Bluebird and Prothonotary Warbler.

The three non-natives are European Starling, House Sparrow and Eurasian Tree Sparrow. Sadly, starlings aggressively outcompete some of our native cavity nesters, adversely impacting their nesting success and almost certainly contributing to population declines. Starlings likely also caused the large drop in the number of Eastern Bluebirds, before they began to rebound with the use of bluebird boxes and bluebird trails. In addition, House Sparrows helped cause the decline in Cliff Swallow nesting in Illinois.

Karen and I have witnessed battles between starlings and woodpeckers for nest holes in the half dead willows in the rear of our back yard, and the starlings almost always triumph.

Of course nest cavities are not always in a snag. But generally a cavity is excavated by a woodpecker in a dead or dying branch, or perhaps a limb breaks off, exposing the heartwood, which rots away, leaving a cavity behind. So the next time a big branch of that oak in your yard breaks off right next to the trunk, don't worry, it may just be a nest cavity for a Great Crested Flycatcher in a year or two. Then in the winter, local birds will use it to shelter from our long, very cold nights.

Snags, or just dead and dying branches, are important food sources, especially for woodpeckers. This can

lead to some pretty arresting images. Witness a Pileated Woodpecker making the chips fly like a chainsaw as they excavate for those juicy bark beetle grubs in a dying tree. When we had our cottage in northern Wisconsin, we saw Pileateds doing this fairly regularly in the woods; we live in hope that this magnificent woodpecker becomes more common around Chicago, and we envy IOSers downstate whose backyards have Pileateds as regular visitors.

By now you're probably saying to yourself: Hey, I don't live in the middle of the woods. There's not a Pileated Woodpecker to be found in 50 miles. It's just a suburban back yard with a few trees – so why should I want to have a dead tree out there, spoiling the view? Just remember, even if not a nest cavity opportunity or a potential food source, that dead tree or snag still will serve both your local birds and the migrants that pass through.

Male Downy Woodpeckers absolutely love to drum on a nice resonant dead branch to announce their territorial ambitions. Male Red-bellied Woodpeckers do the same. Both species have adapted very well to our suburban landscape, so if you provide the drumming board, they will drum – and it's certainly preferable to them drumming on the flashing around your (or your neighbor's) chimney.

Don't underestimate the value of that dead tree or limb as an observation post – for the birds. A number of years ago, Karen and I used to marvel at how many bird species used a large dead elm tree to survey our yard, seek food or look for predators. We even kept a dead elm bird list, which grew to 80+ species before the elm was toppled in a windstorm. Today a willow dying from the top down serves the same purpose, though our dead willow species list is not as long – the willow is farther from the house, making it harder to identify the smaller birds. Whenever a Cooper's Hawk makes a run through our yard (something happening ever more frequently these days), a good percentage of the birds the Coop flushes head right up to the top of our dying willow, perching there and watching the hawk until it leaves the area. And of course, if you want to add Olive-sided Fly-catcher to your yard list, a snag sticking out a bit from the canopy is an essential.

If you don't have one already, get your very own snag! It's as easy as just leaving those big dead branches or that dying tree alone. More proactively, if you've got an unsightly and unwanted weed tree like a box elder or silver maple, simply girdle it by cutting the bark away all around the tree's circumference, 2-3 feet above the ground. For the really ambitious, you can undertake a project described in a birding magazine a few years ago: Dig a big hole in your yard, find and get permission to cut a 20-30 foot snag, get a crane and a big flatbed, cut and lower the snag onto the flatbed, bring it to your yard, set it upright in the hole, pour some concrete and – instant snag! Sounds like a perfect Saturday afternoon project to me. Of course, if your yard is a 40-acre woodlot, you already know how important it is to leave those existing snags alone.

– Robert Fisher
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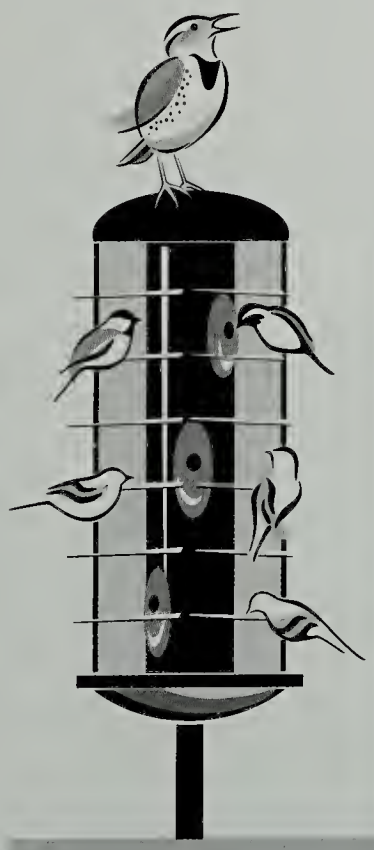

Artwork by Jenny Vogt.

We Need Your Thoughts...

I'd welcome your feedback on this column, as it may become a regular feature in the Meadowlark. I'd especially like your yard and feeder bird stories and observations, which we can build into future columns. The editor and I both hope we can make this column a place where IOS members who enjoy backyard birding can share their experiences. Send me your observations, interesting visitors and the like. That's why the column subtitle is: Reflections on backyard birding throughout Illinois.

You can reach me at: bfisher928@aol.com or by phone at 630-985-2956. Tell me your story and I'll write it down. I look forward to hearing from you.

Thirteenth report of the Illinois Ornithological Records Committee

by Douglas F. Stotz

Evaluations by the Illinois Ornithological Records Committee ("IORC," or "the Committee") are reported here for a total of 60 records of 38 species, including 55 accepted records of 34 species, and five unaccepted records of five species. We examined documentation from a total of 50 observers in evaluating the records included in this report. Included herein are reviewed species evaluations by the current committee from 2003 though 2006.

Format: The format of this report follows the conventions used in the first through twelfth reports of the Committee (Goetz and Robinson 1988; Goetz 1989, 1990; Johnson, Deaton and Clyne 1998; Johnson and Stotz 1999; Stotz and Johnson 2000, 2002, 2003, 2004, 2005, 2006; Stotz 2001). The records below are divided into two major groups: Accepted and Unaccepted. Each of these groups is then further divided into Review List Records, and Other Records. The taxonomy and sequence of species conforms to that of the seventh edition of the American Ornithologists' Union's checklist, (1998) and its supplements, through the 48th (Banks et al. 2007).

An accepted record is entered with the locality (including the standard abbreviation for the county), the date, and (in parentheses) the IORC record number (the first four characters of which give the year of the first observation), and the initials of the primary observer(s) who contributed specimens, descriptions, and/or photographs. Similar information is provided for unaccepted records, except the observers remain anonymous, and a brief explanation of why the record was not accepted is given. Photographic evidence is noted following a contributor's name by an asterisk (*); when the photographic evidence is known to be a videotape, a "v" is appended (*v);*p,v indicates both photographic and video evidence presented by same contributor. Many contributing photographers also submitted written descriptions, a practice the Committee encourages. The initial observers, if known to the committee, are listed first, set off from later contributors of documentation by a semicolon. For specimen records, a sharp (#) follows an abbreviation for the institution holding the specimen, along with that institution's catalog number of the specimen.

Several records that were seen by several to many observers were documented by only one or two of these observers. The committee would like to encourage all observers to document all the review list species they see. Documentation by multiple observers can provide additional evidence and support for the identity of rarities. Often records that have been not accepted suffer from incomplete information, a problem which additional documentation by other observers could help overcome. Additionally, end dates of rarities are often poorly documented; later observers can improve our record of when rarities leave by providing documentation. Increasingly photographs, especially digital images, are being used to document records, which has improved the acceptance rate of records. However, most photographic documentation is not accompanied by written documentation. The committee encourages observers to provide written docu-

First-year male Lazuli Bunting banded at Sand Bluff Bird Observatory, Winnebago County. 29 April 2007. Photo by John Longhenry.

Black-headed Gull at Montrose, Cook County. 24 February-25 March 2007. Photo by Emil Martinec.

mentation of records, even if documented by photographs. Written documentation can often provide important information in the evaluation of a record, even if high-quality photographs are obtained.

Information on the age and sex of the birds reported may be an opinion of the person(s) submitting the evidence and is not necessarily an accepted position of the Committee. All other remarks are the authors', although most of the information comes from the Committee files which are now stored in Chicago, Illinois, in the Bird Division of the Field Museum.

In several cases there are discrepancies between the details presented here and those in other published sources, especially regarding dates of occurrence. The data in this report provide the Committee's best assessment of all available information. I have not generally commented on records that are published elsewhere with more limited data than contained here, but have made explicit note of apparent errors in published data. The author accepts responsibility for any inaccuracies or misrepresentations of information herein. Errors that come to his attention will be published as corrigenda in a future IORC report.

Abbreviations: References to seasonal reports in the journals Illinois Birds and Birding; Meadowlark, A Journal of Illinois Birds; American Birds and North American Birds are abbreviated by IBB, MJIB, AB, and NAB, respectively, followed by volume and page numbers. Months are abbreviated by their first three letters. County abbreviations are the first three letters of their name in most cases. Exceptions in this report are KNK for Kankakee Co., MCN for Macon Co, and SCL for St. Clair Co. These abbreviations follow those adopted in Johnson, Deaton and Clyne (1998) and used in subsequent IORC reports.

"Northern", "central", and "southern Illinois" refer to specific subsections of the state as first defined by Gault (1922); see also Bohlen (1978). An on-line map showing the regions of Illinois can be found at http://www.illinois-birds.org/Listing/2004%20Lists/IllinoisRegionalBirdingMap.gif.

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Review List: The Review List includes species for which the committee will review all records or all records outside of some determined range within the state. These are species that, in general, average two or fewer records per year in the state, or which are extremely rare in all but a few counties in the state. The current review list was revised at the 5 November 2006 committee meeting. IORC requests and welcomes evidence concerning all records for the review species listed on the review list on the IOS/IORC website: http://www.illinoisbirds.org/iorc.html. In addition, any species not listed in the checklist of Illinois state birds (IORC 1999) should be documented, and will be reviewed by IORC. Documentation of regular species may be appropriate when they occur out of season – i.e., exceptionally early arrival dates or late departure dates for migratory species. All first state nesting records also should be documented. Exceptionally high counts of species may also merit documentation. These documentations should generally be sent to the seasonal editor of the Field Notes in the Meadowlark and/or the regional editors for North American Birds. Similarly, rarities on Christmas Bird Counts and Spring Bird Counts should be documented and that documentation provided to the appropriate compiler. In most cases, other than review list species, IORC will not review documentations, except at the request of compilers or editors.

Acknowledgements: This report is made possible by the thoughtful, careful and timely review by all Committee members both past and current, and by the support of Illinois birders and institutions which contributed evidence of Illinois birds by specimens, documentations, photographs, and/or videotapes. Current committee members, Bob Hughes, Travis Mahan, Keith McMullen, Paul Sweet and Mike Ward all provided careful evaluations of the records included in this report, as did Dan Kassebaum who left the committee following the November 2006 committee meeting.

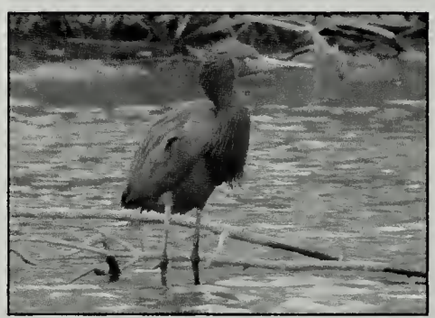
ACCEPTED RECORDS

Review List Records Accepted
(50 records of 29 species)

Eurasian Wigeon (*Anas penelope*) One adult male was near the Illinois River south of Bartonville, PEO on 12 Mar (2006.020; JLM). One adult male was seen at Carlyle Lake WMA, FAY on 20 Oct (2006.028; DMK)

Tufted Duck (*Aythya fuligula*) A female-plumaged bird was on East Fork Lake, RIC on 16 Dec (2005.036; LH, RES). There are fewer than ten accepted records of this species in Illinois.

Neotropic Cormorant (*Phalacrocorax brasilianus*) One adult was at Horseshoe Lake, MAD from 27 Jun- 28 Jul (2007.013; FRH, JU*)



Reddish Egret at Chicago Botanic Garden, Cook County. 9 May 2007. Photo by Carolyn Fields.

Reddish Egret (*Egretta rufescens*) An adult dark morph was at the Chicago Botanic Garden, COO (CBG) on 19-23 May (2007.011; CSF*). It was reported at GLNTC, LAK (ca. 16 miles NNE of CBG) on the afternoon of 23 May, when it had disappeared from the Botanic Garden. On 24-25 May, it was on the beach at Waukegan, another 4 miles north, where it was photographed (JSw*). The committee received no documentation of the bird from GLNTC.

Immature White Ibis in St. Clair County. 8-16 July 2006. Photo by Dan Kassebaum.

Adult White Ibis, Rend Lake, Jefferson County. 22 April 2006. Photo by Dan Kassebaum

White Ibis (*Eudocimus albus*) An immature remained at Homer Lake, CHA from 29 Jul to 11 Aug (2005.022; BAG*); One immature was at Fayetteville TWSP, SCL on 8-16 Jul (2006.035; TJD, DMK*). An adult was seen at Rend Lake, JEF from 22 Apr to 4 May (2006.037; DMK*).

White-faced Ibis (*Plegadis chihi*) Two birds, an adult and an immature were at Carlyle Lake, CLI from 17 Sep to 1 Oct (2005.039; DMK*); one adult at Lake Springfield, SAN on 4 May (2006.032; HDB*). An immature was at Carlyle Lake, FAY on 19-23 Oct (2006.027; DMK*). A minority of the committee did not feel that the photographs of the Fayette Co. bird ruled out Glossy Ibis, but they accepted the record based on written documentation. Thus this record is considered a sight record with written documentation and photographic support, rather than a record documented by photographs.

Swainson's Hawk (*Buteo swainsoni*) An immature was in East Fork TWSP, CLI on 15 Oct (2006.034; DMK, JPM*, DJa*). An adult was seen at the hawk watch at IBSP, north unit, LAK on 22 Oct (2006.026; DBJ); it was seen by a number of observers and documented and sketched by Dave Johnson. An adult was seen at Prairie Ridge SNA, JAS on 22 Sep (2005.037; RES)

Mississippi Kite, June, Jubilee College State Park, Peoria County. 21-26 June. Photos by Jane Ward.

Mississippi Kite (*Ictinia mississippiensis*) An immature photographed at Jubilee College SP, near Peoria, PEO was one of three birds present there from 21-26 June (2007.012; MB, JW*). Records of this insect-eating hawk north of its normal Illinois range are becoming more regular; however, 2007 also coincided with the emergence of the 17-year cicada brood (Brood XIII) in northern Illinois. Cicadas are a significant food item for Mississippi Kites in much of the northern part of their range.

Prairie Falcon (*Falco mexicanus*) One was seen near Savoy, CHA on 22-23 Jan (2006.002; RLJ, GSL)

Gyrfalcon in southwestern Livingston County. 3 February 2007. Photo by Tom Hutton

Gyrfalcon (*Falco rusticolus*) One was south of Flanagan, LIV on 3 Feb (2007.001; DFS, TH*). This bird was apparently seen earlier in the same area, but IORC has received no documentation.

Black Rail (*Laterallus jamaicensis*) One was heard responding to playback at Eckert Woods, FAY on 17 Apr (2006.030; DMK).

Adult Purple Gallinule at Mermet Lake, Massac County. May 2006. Photo by Dan Kassebaum.

Purple Gallinule (*Porphyrio martinica*) An adult was seen at Mermet Lake, MSS from 6 May to 26 June (2006.036; DMK*).

Snowy Plover at Rend Lake, Jefferson County. 28-29 May. Photo by Dan Kassebaum.

Snowy Plover (*Charadrius alexandrinus*) One was at Rend Lake, JEF on 28-29 May (2007.009; DMK*)

Ruff (Reeve) at Horseshoe Lake, Madison County. 19 July 2006. Photo by Dan Kassebaum.

Ruff (*Philomachrus pugnax*) One adult female was at Horseshoe Lake, MAD on 18-21 Jul (2006.038; DMK*)

Pomarine Jaeger (*Stercorarius pomarinus*) A juvenile lingered at Clinton Lake, DEW on 23-31 Oct (2005.044; EWW*, REF, DFS) and was seen by numerous observers. Its plumage fits the "dark intermediate" morph described by Olsen and Larsson (1997).

Parasitic Jaeger (*Stercorarius parasiticus*) A juvenile was seen at Heidecke Lake, GRU 19-23 Sep (2006.011; SAC*, CMA*)

Black-headed Gull (*Larus ridibundus*) An adult in basic plumage remained at Montrose, COO from 24 Feb to 25 Mar (2007.002; JWH, EJM*).

Mew Gull (*Larus canus*) One was at Carlyle Lake, CLI on 1-5 Dec (1995.071; DMK; ASe*).

White-winged Dove (*Zenaida asiatica*) One was at a feeder in Mendota, LAS on 23 May (2006.013; JEH). One was at Montrose, COO on 30 Apr (2007.005; AB*). Another was at Montrose, COO on 10 May (2007.006; GAW*); a bird seen and documented on 8 May (2007.006; RDH) at Montrose was probably the same as the 10 May bird. One was photographed at the Northwestern landfill, Evanston, COO on 26 May (2007.007; JIE*). One remained at a feeder in Springfield, SAN from 1-3 May (2007.008; VMK*). The number of birds at Montrose during the spring of 2007 is not entirely clear. However, that a White-winged Dove could remain at heavily birded Montrose for over a week in early May (including the day of the Spring Bird Count) without being detected seems very unlikely. Based on that, the committee treated the 30 April and 8-10 May birds as different. This species continues to expand, and is now at least annual in Illinois. Records are concentrated in spring, mostly in May.

Barn Owl at Montrose, Cook County. 23 April 2007. Photo by Alex Bloss.

Barn Owl (*Tyto alba*) One was at Montrose, COO on 23 Apr (2007.003; RDH, AB*). One was heard in pre-dawn hours near Chana, OGL on 10 Jul (2005.045; DFS).One remained in an abandoned corn crib at Hennepin Lake, PUT from 19 Nov to 17 Dec (2003.045; JDM, DFS). One was seen south of Victoria, KNO on 19 Oct (2003.043; DJM).

Rufous Hummingbird (*Selasphorus rufus*) An adult male was at feeders near Lake Bracken, KNO on 23-25 Aug (2006.012; J&TSc*, DJM). An adult male was at a feeder in Mt. Carmel, WAB on 21 Jul (2006.024; KD, CS). A first-year male at feeders was banded and photographed, showing the diagnostic tail feathers, at Carbondale, JAC on 10 Aug (2005.043; CHu*).

Say's Phoebe (*Sayornis saya*) One was at IBSP, LAK on 22-23 Sep (2006.033; MJF*). One was seen at Green Valley FP, DUP on 24 Sep (2006.040; REF). One was at Prairie Ridge SNA, JAS from 8 Dec (2006.043; RES*) to 1 Feb 2007.

Townsend's Solitaire (*Myadestes townsendi*) One was at Lake Forest, LAK from 29 Oct to 1 Nov (2005.033; CEG). Although this bird was seen by a number of observers, only the original observer documented the record.

Adult male Townsend's Warbler at LaBagh Woods, Cook County. 5-9 May. Photo by Kanae Hirabayashi.

Townsend's Warbler (*Dendroica townsendi*) An adult male was at LaBagh Woods FP, COO from 5-9 May (2007.010; MFu, KH*).

Western Tanager (*Piranga ludoviciana*) One at Carlyle Lake, CLI on 22 Oct (2006.039; DMK) was thought to be probably an immature female.

Black-headed Grosbeak (*Pheucticus melanocephalus*) An adult male was seen at Waterfall Glen FP, DUP on 8 May (2002.041; REF)

Lazuli Bunting (*Passerina amoena*) A first-year male was banded and photographed at Sand Bluff Bird Observatory, Shirland, WIN on 29 Apr (2007.004; DSe, JL*, LGJ). An adult female was observed and sketched at Carpenter Park, SAN on 14 May (2006.021; HDB). These are the fourth and fifth accepted records for Illinois. See photo on page 54.

Great-tailed Grackle (*Quiscalus mexicanus*) An adult male was seen Spring Lake, CAR on 13 May (2006.018; DTW).

Hoary Redpoll at Illinois Beach State Park, Lake County. 25 November 2006. Photo by Robert Hughes.

Hoary Redpoll (*Carduelis hornemanni*) One at IBSP, north unit, LAK on 25 Nov (2006.042; RH*) was seen by a number of observers.

Other accepted records (5 records of 5 species)

Western Grebe (*Aechmophorus occidentalis*) One was at Sangchris SP near the SAN/CHR county line on 9 Apr (2006.031; HDB*). This species is seldom recorded in spring in Illinois, although there are usually several reports in autumn each year.

California Gull (*Larus californicus*) One first-year bird was at Lake Decatur, MCN from 29 Oct to 11 Nov (2006.041; TAM)

Clay-colored Sparrow (*Spizella pallida*) One was photographed at Moorman Swine Research Center, Urbana, CHA on 10 Mar (2006.017; BAG*). This species typically arrives in Illinois in the latter half of April, so this may have been a wintering bird. There are only two winter records, both from the Chicago area, of this species that have been accepted by IORC, and it has not previously been recorded in Illinois in March.

Lark Sparrow (*Chondestes grammacus*) one at Horseshoe Lake SP, MAD on 22 March (2006.015; SCl*). This is an early arrival date for this species. Bohlen (1987) mentions a 27 March record in Urbana, and one was reported from Massac Co. on 30 March 1998 (Clyne 1998), but otherwise this species typically arrives in Illinois no earlier than mid-April.

Yellow-breasted Chat (*Icteria virens*) One was at Montrose on 19 Oct (2005.038; JPL). This species is rarely seen as a migrant in the fall, and this is about a month after most fall records. However, there are a handful of winter records.

UNACCEPTED RECORDS

Review list species (5 records of 5 species)

Crested Caracara (*Caracara cheriway*) One was reported from Kankakee, KNK on 15 Apr (2006.014). Two observers documented this record, which represents the first report of a caracara from Illinois. The Committee felt that the possibility of this bird being an escape from captivity was too high to accept it as a first state record. Caracaras are not common in captivity and there does seem to be an increasing pattern of vagrancy; on the other hand this record didn't fit into any currently understood pattern. Additionally, both observers saw the bird for only a short period and their descriptions were not very detailed; at least two committee members expressed concern about the identity of the bird, mainly because of the limited detail in the descriptions provided. Neither obser-ver mentioned, for example, the dark crown that caracaras show.

Black Rail (*Laterallus jamaicensis*) One was reported on Northerly Island, Chicago, COO on 21 Oct (2006.025). This bird was flushed by the observer out of tall grass, and was seen only with the naked eye for two to three seconds. Because of that fact, the observer was not able to obtain much detail on the plumage. The details provided are suggestive of Black Rail, but the majority of the committee did not feel they were sufficient to make the record acceptable.

Long-billed Murrelet (*Brachyramphus perdix*) One was reported at Carlyle Lake, CLI on 12 Nov (2005.041). Long-billed Murrelet is an Asiatic species that has a history of vagrancy into the inland United States (refs). There are records from several states in the Midwest, and its eventual occurrence in Illinois is expected. This bird seemed clearly to be a small alcid, and may have been (or perhaps probably was) a Long-billed Murrelet. However, a majority of the Committee felt that the distance to the bird, the brevity of the observation (less than a minute), and the windy conditions under which the bird was seen made it impossible to accept this report as a first state record.

Kirtland's Warbler (*Dendroica kirtlandii*) An adult female was reported at Kankakee, KNK on 21 May (2006.010). The Committee was not convinced by the doc-

umentation of this bird. The bird seen may have very well been a Kirtland's but all of the Committee thought that the description did not rule out Magnolia Warbler. The description did not specifically mention whether the rump was yellow or dark, and did not mention anything about the tail pattern, which is very different between the species. The observer also did not notice tail-wagging, which is characteristic of Kirtland's.

Tricolored Blackbird (*Agelaius tricolor*) An adult male was reported from a feeder in North Barrington, LAK on 26 Feb (2006.016). This species is restricted to western coastal states, plus Nevada and Baja California. There are no vagrant reeords from nearby states, much less from a site as distant as Illinois. The species is largely non-migratory, although it withdraws in the winter into the heart of its breeding range, making it a poor candidate for long-distance vagrancy. A record of this species from Illinois would need to be supported by meticulous documentation and probably a photograph to be accepted. Unfortunately this report did not have such documentation. The bird was not specifically described by the documentor, but instead compared to a Peterson Field Guide description. There was no explanation of what characteristics made the observers think it was this species. Given the great similarity of Tricolored Blackbird to the very common Red-winged Blackbird, the entire committee thought that the documentation provided was inadequate to accept this species from Illinois.

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See page 57 for journal abbreviations.

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The 2006 fall migration

by Douglas F. Stotz

Say's Phoebe drawing by Barbara Williams.

Fall of 2006 brought a variable migration to Illinois. The landbird and shorebird migrations were unimpressive, but waterbirds were fairly well-represented. Few extreme rarities were reported, but a number of moderate rarities were observed including the following at Lake Carlyle: EURASIAN WIGEON in October, PACIFIC LOON in November, and WESTERN TANAGER in October. A NEOTROPIC CORMORANT was at Horseshoe Lake in September, a RUFF (Reeve) was there in July, and a WHITE IBIS was nearby in July. Four RUFOUS HUMMINGBIRDS were scattered across the state. Two SAY'S PHOEBES were found in northeastern Illinois. A HOARY REDPOLL at Illinois Beach in late November was an extraordinary find in a poor finch year.

Temperatures averaged a bit below average for the fall. The season continued the drought conditions that dominated the state throughout the summer, but beginning in early September, the rest of the fall was wetter than average. Few landbird fallouts were associated with the wet weather. Unlike 2005, Illinois did not witness much in the way of out-of-range birds due to any tropical systems.

Ducks through Hawks

Waterfowl migration was largely on time despite relatively mild conditions. As usual there were good counts of a number of species from the Illinois and Mississippi Rivers as well as Carlyle Lake. Scoters were well-represented both on Lake Michigan and inland in northern Illinois. Downstate, it seemed there were fewer than in the last several years. Loons and grebes were well-represented everywhere. The only Pacific Loon was at Lake Carlyle, but there were good Common Loon counts throughout the state, and Red-throated Loons were extremely well-represented on Lake Michigan into December. After 2005, when no Western Grebes and only one Red-necked Grebe were reported, the seven Western Grebes, and large numbers of Red-necked Grebes were welcome. Big counts of both American White Pelican and Double-crested Cormorant were typical of recent years. Low water early in the season through much of the state produced good heron counts in many sites, most notably 1000+ Great Egrets at Carlyle Lake and in the Illinois River valley; 37 Snowy Egrets at Chautauqua, and 425 Little Blue Herons at Horseshoe Lake. There were more Black-crowned Night-Heron reports than recent falls, and several Yellow-crowned Night-Herons lingered at Lake Calumet for much of August and September. A White Ibis and several Plegadis ibises made for an above average fall for this group. Three Swainson's Hawks during migration was an above average number. A second hawk watch at Green Valley Forest Preserve in DuPage County was a welcome addition to the longstanding hawk watch at Illinois Beach State Park in Lake County. Green Valley did not approach Illinois Beach in numbers of common migrants, but had good representation of less common migrants such as Northern Goshawk and Golden Eagle.

Rails through Woodpeckers

Soras were well-reported again this fall, but few reports of Virginia Rail were received. Only one King Rail was reported. Four Yellow Rails at Prairie Ridge in October was impressive. American Coot numbers from the Illinois River were a bit below recent years. Sandhill Crane migration was quite good and high counts were widespread. Significant movement continued into early December. Whooping Cranes from the reintroduced population were seen on a few occasions accompanying Sandhill migration. Shorebird migration was fairly typical, with good numbers along the Illinois River and from some downstate lakes. Rarities were few. The only jaegers noted the fall of 2006 were a Parasitic at Heidecke Lake in September and an unidentified juvenile at Montrose in November. Winter gulls made a fairly good showing this fall, especially at Winthrop Harbor. Three California Gulls for the fall is a good count. This was the best fall for Black-legged Kittiwakes for a number of years, with most birds from Lake Michigans, but there were at least two birds downstate. Tern migration was unimpressive throughout the state. On the other hand, Short-eared Owl migration was very strong, with good counts along the Lake Michigan lakefront, and at quality grasslands inland. There were a number of good counts of Common Nighthawks in late August, including 2,000 at Chicago Botanic Garden, Cook County, and 1,630

Twelve Willets in flight at Montrose Beach, Cook County. 13 August 2006. Photo by Steve Huggins.

at Zion, Lake County. Nighthawks remained until the end of October and early November at several sites. One of the most notable characteristics of the fall, at least in northeastern Illinois, was Chimney Swifts staying well past their normal mid-October departure, with multiple reports into the first ten days of November. A high count of 159 at Jackson Park on 31 Oct was extraordinary for a bird, usually long gone by that date (see article in this issue). Elsewhere in the state, last dates were a bit later than average, but were not as extreme as the Chicago area. Migrations of both Yellow-shafted Flicker and Yellow-bellied Sapsucker were solid with slightly above average numbers.

Passerines

Empidonax flycatchers had a poor migration, but two Say's Phoebes in the Chicago area, one in Lake County and the other in DuPage County in late September enlivened the birding scene. Eastern Kingbird had impressive concentrations well downstate in August and early September. Vireo migration was fairly weak, with no impressive counts. Swallows had a fairly typical migration, although there were several November Barn Swallows reported. No large concentrations of Purple Martins were reported again this fall. Other than an impressive all-time record count of nocturnal migrant Swainson's Thrush, the thrush migration was generally mediocre, as was the warbler migration. Window casualties in Chicago provided early and late records as well as some high counts. Most notable was the 32 Connecticut Warblers found dead during the season, and 37 Brown Creepers found on 1 October.

There were no significant fallout days along the Lake Michigan lakefront, so high counts of passerines were generally unimpressive. Sparrows, in particular had poor counts. Inland, however, there were good counts of Vesper Sparrows in October.

Warbler migration got an early start with numerous species already present in mid-August, and there were a fair number of reports of species lingering later than usual in the fall, including House Wren, Sedge Wren, Gray-cheeked Thrush, American Redstart, Nashville, Chestnut-sided, Magnolia, Palm, Bay-breasted and Connecticut Warblers, and Scarlet Tanager. A Yellow Palm Warbler in November at Northerly Island was one of the few documented records of this subspecies in Illinois.

Irruptive Species

Irruptive species had a general poor showing in fall 2006. Rough-legged Hawks were a bit below average, but Northern Goshawks were well-represented at the hawk watches, although few were seen away from these sites. Northern Shrike numbers were good, but not extraordinary, and records were almost all from northeastern Illinois. Red-breasted Nuthatches and Pine Siskins arrived late and had a poor migration away from some conifer-rich sites. Other than a good count from Illinois Beach State Park, Purple Finches were hard to come by. A few crossbills and Evening Grosbeaks in northeastern Illinois raised birders' hopes, but few other than those were counted. Despite a Hoary Redpoll at Illinois Beach State Park, redpolls were scarce and mostly restricted to the lakefront.

Special thanks go to all the contributors whose names are listed below. Without these reports, we would have a much less complete picture of the fall migration season in Illinois.

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As a printing aid, the following abbreviations have been used throughout this report:

EA	earliest arrival(s)
MC	maximum count(s)
LD	latest departure(s)
*	documented record
m.ob.	many observers
:ph	photographed
(sub)ad.	(sub)adult(s)
imm.	immature(s)
juv.	juvenal(s) / juvenile(s)
1st yr/2nd yr/...	first plumage year/ second plumage year/...
Co(s)	County (Counties)
FP	Forest Preserve
FWA	Fish & Wildlife Area
L	Lake
L&D	Lock & Dam
NC	Nature Center
NPsv	Nature Preserve
NWR	National Wildlife Refuge
P	Park
Pr	Prairie
SP	State Park
Twp	Township
Wds	Woods

Transparent directionals (n. = north(ern), ne. = northeast(ern), etc.) are used where applicable.

Remarks on the historical significance of records aim to be valid for the corpus of data published in Bohlen's 1989 *Birds of Illinois* and in the seasonal summaries in the Illinois journals *Illinois Birds and Birding* (summer 1984 - spring 1991) and *Meadowlark* (summer 1991 - present). Most of these remarks were supplied by Paul R. Clyne.

Carl.B/C/F	Carlyle Lake (Bond Co/Clinton Co/Fayette Co)
Carl.L	Carlyle Lake (county unspecified)
Chau	Chautauqua National Wildlife Refuge (Mason Co)
Chi	Chicago (Cook Co); see also Grant P, JP, Linc. P, Montrose H, Northerly I
Clin.L	Clinton Lake (DeWitt Co)
(L) Decatur	(Lake) Decatur (Macon Co)
Fermi	Fermilab National Accelerator Laboratory (Du Page Co)
Grant P	Grant Park, Chicago (Cook Co)
Greene Vly FP	Greene Valley Forest Preserve (Du Page Co)
Hennepin L	Hennepin-Hopper Lake Restoration Area (Putnam Co)
HL	Horseshoe Lake State Park (Madison Co)
IBSP	Illinois Beach State Park (Lake Co)
JP	Jackson Park and vicinity, Chicago (Cook Co)
Kankakee	Kankakee (Kankakee Co)
LCal	Lake Calumet area (s. Cook Co)
Linc. P	Lincoln Park, Chieago (Cook Co)
MeadbrkP	Meadowbrook Park, Urbana (Champaign Co)
Montrose H	Montrose Harbor, Lincoln Park, Chicago (Cook Co)
Morton Arb.	Morton Arboretum, Lisle (Du Page Co)
Northerly I	Northerly Island (formerly Meigs Field), Burnham Park, Chicago (Cook Co)
Palos	Palos area (sw. Cook Co)
Pr.Rdg	Prairie Ridge State Natural Area (Jasper Co unless noted)
Rend L	Rend L (Franklin/Jefferson Cos)
Rice L	Rice Lake State Fish & Wildlife Area (Fulton Co)
Rockfd	Rockford (Winnebago Co)
Salt Crk Wds	Salt Creek Woods Nature Preserve (w. Cook Co)
Two Rivers NWR	Two Rivers National Wildlife Refuge (Calhoun Co)
Urbana	Urbana (Champaign Co)
Wauk.	Waukegan (Lake Co)
Winthrop H	Winthrop Harbor (Lake Co)

Headings for species requiring IORC (Illinois Ornithological Records Committee) review in parts of Illinois or in some plumages are **underlined**, while those for species requiring review of all records are **CAPITALIZED AND UNDERLINED**. Records pending IORC review are enclosed in square brackets [ ]. The IORC review list can be viewed at the IOS/IORC website, http://www.illinoisbirds.org/iorc.html. Noteworthy dates and sites of occurrence and remarkably high counts for the state as a whole or for particular regions of the state are **underlined and boldfaced**, and some further editorial remarks are **boldfaced**.

The 2003 DeLorme *Illinois Atlas & Gazetteer* has been used as a standard for spelling of place names for sites included therein.

The 2006 Fall Migration

Greater White-fronted Goose
EA: 15 Aug-15 Sep, HL (FRH); 5 Oct (6), Hennepin L (DFS). **MC**: 400, Pyramid SP (Perry Co), 12 Nov (DMK, TAM); 253, Chau, 22 Nov (RGB, SNB).

Snow Goose
EA: 5 Aug (crippled), Carl.C (DMK); 24 Sep (white morph), Heyworth (McLean Co) (MLR); 25 Sep (white morph), Naperville (Du Page Co) (JDC). **MC**: 6000, Pyramid SP (Perry Co), 12 Nov (DMK, TAM); 3100, Baldwin L (St. Clair/Randolph Cos), 22 Nov (JDC).

Ross's Goose
EA: 18 Oct, Stark Co (JDC); 1-15 Nov (imm.), w. La Salle Co (DFS, m.ob.). **MC**: 5, L Decatur (TAM); 4, Baldwin L (St. Clair/Randolph Cos), 22 Nov (JDC); 2, Rochelle (Ogle Co), 7 Nov (SDB); 2, El Paso (Woodford Co), 26 Nov (MW). **Ross's x Snow Goose:** 30 Oct-9 Nov (imm.), Northerly I (DFS, GAW, m.ob.).

Cackling Goose
EA: 28 Sep (36), Rockfd (DTW); 29 Sep (150), Peoria Co (JWW); 1 Oct (several), Peru (La Salle Co) (UWG). **MC**: 850, w. La Salle Co, 1 Nov (DFS); 650, Rochelle (Ogle Co) & Rockfd, 7 Nov (SDB).

Canada Goose
EA: 13 Sep (40+ migrating), Zion (Lake Co) (EWW). **MC**: 3650, L Renwick (Will Co), 15 Nov (DFS); 1500, Pyramid SP (Perry Co), 12 Nov (DMK, TAM).

Mute Swan
MC: 80, Banner Marsh FWA (Fulton/Peoria Cos), 1 Nov (JGW).

Trumpeter Swan
MC: 5, Chau, 30 Nov (JV, LM).

Tundra Swan
EA: 27 Oct, Chau (RGB, SNB); 28 Oct, Wauk. (DFS). **MC**: 50, Herrick L FP (Du Page Co), 19 Nov (UWG); 33, Chau, 22 Nov (RGB, SNB).

Wood Duck
MC: 434, Chau, 22 Sep (RGB, SNB).

Gadwall
EA: 10 Aug, Rollins Savanna FP (Lake Co) (JSS); 14 Aug, HL (FRH); 27 Aug, Chau (SDB, IOS); 29 Aug, Montrose H (GAW). **MC**: **6500**, HL, 5 Nov (FRH); 2440, Hennepin L, 5 Oct (DFS); 1281, Carl.L, 23 Oct (KAM).

EURASIAN WIGEON
20 Oct, Carl.C (*DMK).

American Wigeon
EA: 5 Sep (2), Rollins Savanna FP (Lake Co) (JSS). **MC**: 1630, Hennepin L, 5 Oct (DFS); 800, Carl.F, 20 Oct (DMK).

American Black Duck
EA: 8 Aug, Rollins Savanna FP (Lake Co) (JSS); 4 Sep, Springbrook Pr. FP (Du Page Co) (ClS); 12 Oct, Kankakee (JBH).

Mallard
MC: 30,000, Carl.F, 25 Nov (DMK, CPA); 15,000, Carl.C, 26 Nov (DMK); 9650, Clear L (Mason Co), 17 Nov (RGB, SNB); 6800, Hennepin L, 15 Nov (DFS).

Blue-winged Teal
MC: 2500+, Rice L, 25 Aug (SDB); 2300, Swan L (Jersey Co), 21 Aug (KAM); 600, Carl.C, 26 Aug-4 Sep (DMK). **LD**: 30 Nov, HL (FRH); 1 Nov, Hennepin L (DFS, PAC); 29 Oct (injured bird) Rollins Savanna FP (Lake Co) (SDB).

Northern Shoveler
EA: 11 Aug (10), Chau (KAM); 13 Aug (3), L Decatur (TAM); 18 Aug (50+), Rice L (SDB); 19 Aug, Rollins Savanna FP (Lake Co) (JSS). **MC**: 1060, Hennepin L, 1 Nov (DFS, PAC); 800, Carl.F, 20 Oct (DMK).

Northern Pintail
EA: 15 Aug, HL (FRH); 20 Aug (3), Two Rivers NWR (MST); 24 Aug (10), Rice L (SDB). **MC**: **7730**, Chau, 10 Nov (RGB, SNB); 4470, Hennepin L, 1 Nov (DFS).

Green-winged Teal
EA: 3 Aug (3), LCal (WJM); 10 Aug, Rollins Savanna FP (Lake Co) (JSS); 2 Sep, Chau (ABA). **MC**: **9269**, Chau, 10 Nov (RGB, SNB); 610, Hennepin L, 1 Nov (DFS, PAC).

Canvasback
EA: 5 Oct, Hennepin L (DFS). **MC**: **24,000**, Hancock Co, 19 Nov (AGD); 215, Hennepin L, 1 Nov (DFS, PAC). **Canvasback x Redhead?**: 9 Sep, HL (MST:ph).

Redhead
EA: **1 Aug**, HL (FRH); 26 Sep, LCal (WJM); 5 Oct (15), Hennepin L (DFS). **MC**: 200, IBSP, 29 Oct (KAM).

Ring-necked Duck
EA: 24 Sep, L Decatur (TAM); 27 Sep, Heidecke L (Grundy Co) (JBH); 1 Oct, Hennepin L (REF, KDF). **MC**: **4000**, Carl.C, 24 Nov (DMK, JWE)—record fall high count excluding aerial survey data; 1500, Hennepin L, 1 Nov (DFS, PAC). **Others**: 2 (summering males), Woodridge (Du Page Co), 5 Aug (UWG).

Greater Scaup
EA: 9 Oct, Wauk. (CSF); 12 Oct, Montrose H (GAW). **MC**: 1000, IBSP, 29 Oct (KAM); 11, Saganashkee Slough, Palos, 29 Oct (WSS); 2, Carl.C, 29 Oct-4 Nov (DMK et al.).

Lesser Scaup
EA: 5 Oct, Hennepin L (DFS). **MC**: **20,000**, Hancock Co, 15 Nov (AGD); 4000, Carl.C, 11 Nov (DMK, CLH, RES); 2000, IBSP, 29 Oct (KAM).

Harlequin Duck
EA: 14-17 Nov (ad. male), Rainbow Beach, Chi (DFS, m.ob.); 19 Nov-1 Dec (ad. male), Calumet P, LCal (MLR, NLB, m.ob.). These records likely refer to the same individual.

Surf Scoter
EA: 10 Oct (female), Rock Cut SP (Winnebago Co) (DTW); 12 Oct, HL (FRH:ph); 22 Oct (male), Saganashkee Slough, Palos (DFS, m.ob.). **MC**: 5, Carl.C, 29 Oct (DMK); 4, IBSP, 12 Nov (EWW). **Other:** 25 Nov (2), River Bend FP (Champaign Co) (DLT).

White-winged Scoter
EA: 19 Oct (3+), Shabbona L SP (De Kalb Co) (DJS). **MC**: 8, Saganashkee Slough, Palos, 22 Oct (REF, KDF, WJM, m.ob.).

Black Scoter
EA: 25 Oct, Kankakee (JBH); 25 Oct, Linc. P (JHP). **MC**: 16, Gillson P, Wilmette (Cook Co), 27 Oct (JRS); 5, IBSP, 26 Oct (JDC); 5, Wauk., 13 Nov (EWW). **LD**: 6 Dec (3), JP (PRC). **Other:** 28 Oct (2 females), Clin. L (GSL).

Long-tailed Duck
EA: 31 Oct, Montrose H (GAW); 8 Nov, Thomson Causeway (Carroll Co) (AS); 14 Nov, Rainbow Beach, Chi (DFS). **MC**: 4, Kenilworth (Cook Co), 24 Nov (JRS).

Bufflehead
EA: 14 Oct (2 females), Calumet P, LCal (DFS); 14 Oct (6), Wauk., 14 Oct (UWG). **MC**: 112, Winthrop H, 1 Dec (EWW); 54, s. Chi lakefront, 14 Nov (DFS); 41, Chau, 10 Nov (RGB, SNB).

Common Goldeneye
EA: 21 Oct (female), Heidecke L (Grundy Co) (DFS). **MC**: 122, Glencoe, 11 Nov (GAW).

Hooded Merganser
EA: 7 Aug, Montrose H (GAW); 4 Oct, Linc. P (GAW). **MC**: 128, Saganashkee Slough, Palos, 10 Nov (WSS); 90, Carl.C, 26 Nov (DMK).

Common Merganser
EA: 30 Sep, L Arlington, Arlington Heights (Cook Co) (JCB); 9 Oct (female), Wauk. (CSF); 23 Oct (3 females), Grant P (DFS); 24 Nov (3), Carl.C (DMK, JWE); 25 Nov (female), L Decatur (TAM); 5 Dec, JP (PRC).

Red-breasted Merganser
EA: 22 Oct, Saganashkee Slough, Palos (DFS, UWG, REF, KDF); 23 Oct, Montrose H (GAW); 29 Oct (2), Carl.C (DMK). **MC**: 320, Rainbow Beach, Chi, 14 Nov (DFS).

Ruddy Duck
EA: 5 Aug (2), Rollins Savanna FP (Lake Co) (DTW). **MC**: **4103**, Clear L (Mason Co) and vicinity, 22 Nov (RGB, SNB); **4000**, Hancock Co, 19 Nov (AGD)—record fall high counts; 600, Carl.C, 29 Oct (DMK); 330, Hennepin L, 1 Nov (DFS, PAC).

Gray Partridge
No reports

Ring-necked Pheasant
MC: 10, Kankakee, 5 Nov (JBH); 5, LCal, 16 Sep (WJM et al.).

Greater Prairie-Chicken
MC: 71, Pr.Rdg (Marion Co) 22 Nov (RES); 57, Pr.Rdg, 2 Nov (RES).

Wild Turkey
MC: 41, Marion Co, 13 Sep (RES); 40, Carl.C, 9 Oct (DMK); 12, Starved Rock SP (La Salle Co), 1 Sep (EWW).

Northern Bobwhite
MC: 37, Jasper Co, 25 Sep (RES); 29, Edwards Co, 29 Nov (RES); 11, near Bushnell (McDonough Co), 22 Aug (LLH).

Red-throated Loon
EA: 23 Oct, ISBP (IBHW); 25 Oct, JP (PRC). **MC**: **10** (8 ad., 2 juv.), 25 Nov, Highland Park (Lake Co) (RDH)—**record high count** by one bird; 3, IBSP, 27 Nov (DRD). **LD**: into Dec, Lake Co lakefront (m.ob.). **Other**: 4-5 Nov, Carl.C (RDH, m.ob.). There were a number of reports along L Michigan throughout November.

PACIFIC LOON
EA: 29 Oct-12 Nov, Carl.C (DMK:ph, m.ob.).

Common Loon
EA: **28 Aug**, Montrose H (RDH); 27 Sep, Greene Vly FP (REF, KDF); 4 Oct, McGinnis Slough, Palos (KAM). **MC**: 100+, Carl.C, 4 Nov (DMK, KAM, DFS et al.); 36, L Springfield (Sangamon Co), 10 Nov (RLJ); 32, Clin. L, 5 Nov (BG); 20, Saganashkee Slough, Palos, 22 Oct (JRRS, m.ob.). **LD**: into Dec.

Pied-billed Grebe
EA: 16 Sep, JP (PRC). **MC**: 186 (166 at McGinnis Slough), Palos, 22 Oct (DFS); 172, McGinnis Slough, Palos, 16 Oct (WJM); 122, Hennepin L, 19 Oct (DFS, PAC); 62, L Springfield (Sangamon Co), 26 Nov (RLJ); 60, Carl.C, 4 Nov (DMK et al.).

Horned Grebe
EA: 21 Sep, Paul Douglas FP (Cook Co) (SS). **MC**: **300**, Rend L, 23 Nov (DMK); **200**, Carl.C, 24 Nov (DMK, JWE); 67, L Michigan lakefront (Lake/Cook Cos), 5 Nov (GAW, DPBC et al.); 43, Saganashkee Slough, Palos, 22 Oct (WSS); 36, L Springfield (Sangamon Co), 10 Nov (RLJ); 30, L Decatur, 11 Nov (TAM); 25, Clin. L, 19 Nov (GSL); 16, Rock Cut SP (Winnebago Co), 10 Oct (DTW). **LD**: into Dec.

Red-necked Grebe
EA: 21 Sep, Lake Co (JDC); 30 Sep-13 Oct, McGinnis Slough, Palos (RLS, JD, WSS, LM, m.ob.); 14 Oct, Carl.C (DMK); 15 Oct, Saganashkee Slough, Palos (RDH, GAW, CLW). **MC**: 3-4, Saganashkee Slough, Palos, 22 Oct (REF, KDF, WJM); 3, Highland Park (Lake Co), 25 Nov (RDH). **LD**: 25 Nov (3), Rosewood Beach, Highland Park (Lake Co) (RDH); 9 Nov, Montrose H (RDH). **Others**: 29 Oct, Saganashkee Slough, Palos (WSS); 29 Oct, L Decatur (MFD). Unusually large numbers this fall.

Eared Grebe
EA: 22 Sep, HL (FRH); 3 Oct, McGinnis Slough, Palos (JRRS, PAM); 6 Oct, East Fork L (Richland Co) (CLH). **MC**: 2, HL, 17 Oct (FRH). **LD**: 4 Nov, Carl.C (DMK, KAM, RDH et al.).

Western Grebe
EA: 7-11 Oct, McGinnis Slough, Palos (REF, WSS, RDH, m.ob.); 14 Oct, Carl.C (DMK). **LD**: 28 Oct-29 Nov, HL (JPZ, FRH:ph, DJ, m.ob.); 20 Nov, Crab Orchard NWR (Williamson Co) (JDC); 3-12 Nov, Carl.C (DMK, m.ob.); 4 Nov, Montrose H (RDH, BRK:ph). **Others**: 21-29 Oct, Saganashkee Slough, Palos (WSS, CSF, PAM, m.ob.); 29 Oct-1 Nov, L Decatur (TAM, MFD, RS). Excellent season.

American White Pelican
EA: **2 Jul**, Carl.C (DMK); **4 Jul**, LCal (WJM, JRRS). **MC**: **10,000**, Carl.F, 1 Oct (DMK); **7000**, Carl.C, 24 Sep (DMK); **6443**, Chau, 15 Sep (RGB, SNB); **4000**, Two Rivers NWR, 20-22 Jul (DMK); 2000, HL, 27 Sep (FRH). **LD**: 26 Nov, Carl.C (DMK); 15 Nov (36), Hennepin L (DFS). **Others**: 110, Smith L (Scott Co), 2 Sep (EWW); marked bird (banded as nestling at Marsh L, Manitoba), Chau, 1 Sep (RGB, SNB).

NEOTROPIC CORMORANT
5 Sep, HL (*FRH).

Double-crested Cormorant
EA: 17 Jul (3), IBSP (EWW); 19 Jul, JP (DCA). **MC**: 8000, Carl.L, 24 Sep-9 Oct (DMK); 6000, Rend L (Franklin Co), 19-23 Nov (DMK); 750, Chau, 25 Aug (SDB); 174, Montrose H, 15 Aug (GAW).

American Bittern at Rollins Savanna, Lake County. 20 August 2006. Photo by Alan Fletcher.

American Bittern
EA: 7 Sep, Montrose H (WSS); 24 Sep, Vermilion Co (BS); 25 Sep, Carl.C (KAM); 27 Sep, JP (PRC). **LD**: 13 Nov, Pr.Rdg (RES); 22-31 Oct, JP (PRC, JRRS et al.); 23 Oct, Montrose H (GAW). **Others**: 14 Oet, Calumet P, LCal (DFS); 14 Oct, Montrose H (WSS).

Least Bittern
LD: 11 Sep (window casualty), Chi (CBCM); 11 Sep, Hennepin L (JDC); 13 Aug, Afton FP (De Kalb Co) (DTW).

Great Blue Heron
EA: 12 Jul (11), JP (KMC). **MC**: 300, *Mason*, 26 Aug (SDB); 300, Carl.C, 12 Aug (DMK).

Great Egret
MC: 1500, Carl.C, 19 Aug (DMK); 1055, Clear L (Mason Co), 4 Aug (RGB, SNB); 700, Hennepin L, 16 Jul (DJS). **LD**: 25 Nov, Emiquon NWR (Fulton Co) (TVL); 11 Nov, HL (FRH); 5 Nov (2), Hennepin L (DJS); 4 Nov, Silver Creek (Bond Co) (KAM); 29 Oct, Wolf L, LCal (WJM). **Others**: 15, Wauk., 29 Aug (EWW).

Snowy Egret
MC: 37, Chau, 1 Sep (RGB, SNB); 11, HL, 24 Sep (FRH). **LD**: 5 Oct, HL (FRH).

Little Blue Heron
MC: **425**, HL, 16 Jul (KAM); 6, LCal, 6 Aug (WJM); 6, Carl.C, 12 Aug (DKM); 6, Chau, 1 Sep (RGB, SNB). **LD**: 30 Sep, Carl.C (DMK); 17 Sep, LCal (WJM).

Cattle Egret
MC: 3, Chau, 1 Sep (RGB, SNB). **LD**: 5 Nov, Carl.C (DMK).

Green Heron
MC: 49, Mason Co, 25 Aug (RGB, SNB); 28 (nocturnal migrants), Rantoul (Champaign Co), 13 Sep (SDB); 22, Chau, 25 Aug (SDB); 19 (nocturnal migrants), Rantoul (Champaign), 29-30 Aug (SDB). **LD**: 14 Nov, Kankakee (JBH); 9 Nov, HL (FRH); 18 Oct, Linc. P (GAW).

Black-crowned Night-Heron
MC: 25, Chau, 26 Aug (SDB). **LD:** 19 Nov, Clin. L (GSL).

Yellow-crowned Night-Heron
MC: 6, LCal, 20 & 26 Aug (WJM, DRD); 2 (imm.), Wayne Co, 25 Aug (CLH). **LD**: 24 Sep (3), LCal (WJM). **Other:** 26 Aug, Chau (imm) (TAM, SDB).

WHITE IBIS
8-16 Jul (juv.), Fayetteville Twp (St. Clair Co) (DMK:ph, TJD).

***Plegadis*, sp?**
20 Aug-3 Sep. (imm.), Chau (KBR, SDB, ABA, GAW, IOS, m.ob.); 31 Aug-8 Sep (2 adults), Chau (KBR, RGB, SNB); 20 Aug (2), Sanganois State Wildlife Area (Cass Co) (KBR); 24 Sep, Rend L (LS).

Glossy Ibis
30 Nov, Banner Marsh FWA (Fulton/Peoria Cos) (*JV, LM)—**record late date** (previously 15 Nov 1994 for this species and 23 Nov 1994 for the genus).

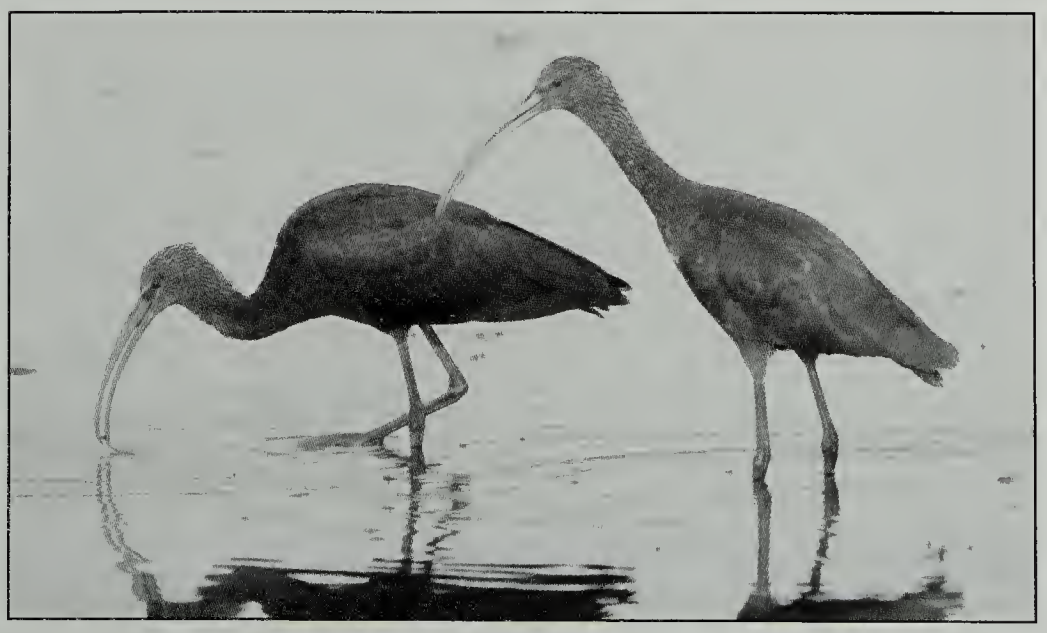
White-faced Ibis
19-23 Oct (2), Carl.F (BH, DMK:ph); **30 Nov**, Banner Marsh FWA (Fulton/Peoria Cos) (*JV, LM)—**record late dates** (previously 9 Oct 2005 for records identified as this species).

Black Vulture
No reports received.

Turkey Vulture
MC: 99, IBSP, 22 Oct (IBHW); 75, Warsaw (Hancock Co), 15 Oct (AGD). **LD**: 30 Oct, Rockfd (DTW).

Osprey
EA: 30 Jul, Rockfd (DTW). **MC**: **31**, IBSP, 19 Sep (IBHW); 6, Carl.C, 23 Sep (KAM, DMK); 4, Rockfd, 2 Sep (DTW). **LD**: 11 Nov, IBSP (IBHW); 22 Oct, Palos (WJM, UWG); 15 Oct, Carl.C (DMK); 11 Oct, L Decatur (TAM).

Mississippi Kite
MC: 2, Madison Co, 9 Aug (FRH). **LD**: 18 Sep, Crab Orchard NWR (Williamson Co) (LW).



Above, White-faced Ibis, left and Glossy Ibis at Banner Marsh, Fulton and Peoria Counties. 27 November 2006. In photo at right, the Glossy Ibis is on the left. Photos by Dennis Oehmke.

Bald Eagle
MC: 10, IBSP, 22 Oct (IBHW); 6, *Mason & Fulton*, 26 Aug (SDB).

Northern Harrier
EA: 11 Aug, Pr.Rdg (RES); 21 Aug, Meadbrk P (RD). **MC**: 64, IBSP, 28 Oct (IBHW); 22, Carl.C, 18 Nov (DMK); 10, Hennepin L, 19 Oct (DFS); 9, Chau, 28 Sep (RGB, SNB); 8, Ford Co, 10 Oct (DFS); 7, Williamson Co, 12 Nov (LS).

Sharp-shinned Hawk
EA: **28 Jul**, Madison Co (KAM); 5 Sep, Greene Vly FP (REF, KDF). **MC**: **453**, IBSP, 22 Oct (IBHW).

Cooper's Hawk
MC: 17, IBSP, 22 Oct (IBHW); 5, Kankakee, 1 Sep (JBH); 5, Ford Co, 10 Oct (DFS).

Northern Goshawk at Urbana, Champaign County. 29 September 2006. This is an early date for this species in central Illinois. Photos by Seth Price.

Northern Goshawk
EA: 2p Sep, Urbana (SP); 22 Oct, IBSP (IBHW); 23 Oct, Greene Vly FP (REF, KDF). **MC**: 7, IBSP, 28 Oct (IBHW).

Red-shouldered Hawk
EA: 8 Sep, IBSP (IBHW). **MC**: 7, IBSP, 3 Nov (IBHW).

Broad-winged Hawk
EA: 13 Aug, Waterfall Glen FP (Du Page Co) (REF, KDF); 20 Aug, Rice L (TAM, KBR). **MC**: 1500+, Bloomington (McLean Co), 24 Sep (WCH); 1000+, Rice L, 21 Sep (KBR); 500, Upper Mississippi River NWR, Spring L(Carroll Co), 14 Sep (AS); 367, Greene Vly FP, 25 Sep (REF, KDF).

Swainson's Hawk
MC: **6**, Kane/McHenry Cos, 11 Aug (RAM, ALM). **LD**: 22 Oct, **IBSP** (*DBJ, *PWS et al.); 15 Oct (juv.), **Carl.C** (DMK:ph, DJ:ph, m.ob.); 24 Sep, **IBSP** (IBHW); 23 Aug (3), Kane/McHenry Cos (RAM, ALM).

Red-tailed Hawk
MC: 223, IBSP, 28 Oct (IBHW); 60, Carl.C, 29 Oct & 3 Nov (DMK); 20, Ford Co, 10 Oct (DFS). **Other:** 13 Nov (intermediate rufous morph), Urbana (RLJ).

Rough-legged Hawk
EA: 12 Oct, Lake Forest (Lake Co) (ABA); 22 Oct, Carl.C (DMK); 22 Oct (2), IBSP (IBHW). **MC**: 9, IBSP, 28 Oct (IBHW).

Golden Eagle
EA: **25 Sep**, Greene Vly FP (REF, KDF); 12 Oct, IBSP (IBHW); 20 Oct, Rockfd (DTW); 21 Nov, Oakwood Bottoms (Jackson Co) (JDC). **MC**: 2, Greene Vly FP, 24 Oct (REF, KDF), with season total of six at this site.

American Kestrel
MC: 18, Ford Co, 10 Oct (DFS), 14, IBSP, 25 Sep (IBHW); 14, Macon Co, 25 Nov (TAM); 10, Carl.C, 19 Nov (DMK).

Merlin
EA: 26 Aug, IBSP (IBHW); 20 Sep, Greene Vly FP (REF, KDF); 23 Sep, Carl.C (DKM, TAM, KAM et al.). **MC**: **87**, IBSP, 12 Oct (IBHW).

Peregrine Falcon
EA: 1 Sep, IBSP (IBHW). **MC**: 19, IBSP, 30 Sep (IBHW); 3, Northerly I, 10 Nov (DFS, FMS).

Yellow Rail
MC: **4**, Pr.Rdg, 10 Oct (RES:ph of 1). **Others**: 1 Oct, IBSP (*EWW); 15 Oct, Clin. L (GSL).

King Rail
LD: 2 Sep, Rollins Savanna FP (Lake Co) (RDH).

Virginia Rail
LD: 24 Oct (window casualty), Chi (CBCM); 23 Oct, Pr.Rdg (RES).

Sandhill Cranes flying with their legs tucked in, typically only done in cold weather. McHenry County. 3 December 2006. Photo by Matthew Fletcher.

Sora
EA: 13 Aug, L Decatur (TAM); 23 Aug (2), Linc. P (GAW). **MC**: 25, Chau, 26 Aug (SDB); 20, Clear L (Mason Co), 15 Sep (RGB, SNB); 18, Wayne Co, 25 Aug (CLH, RES). **LD**: 18 Oet, Whalon L (Will Co) (REF, KDF); 18 Oct, HL (KAM); 15 Oct (window casualty), Chi (CBCM); 15 Oct, Clin. L (GSL); 14 Oct (4), Carl.C (DMK); 3 Oet, IBSP (EWW).

Willets at Illinois Beach State Park, Lake County. 17 August 2006. Photo by Carolyn Fields.

Common Moorhen
MC: 12+, L&D #13 (Whiteside Co), 2 Oct (AS). **LD**: 30 Oct (3), L&D #13 (Whiteside Co) (JDC).

American Coot
MC: **12,300**, Hennepin L, 19 Oct (DFS, PAC); 4500, L&D #13 (Whiteside Co), 6 Nov (JDC); 3000, Carl.C, 29 Oct (DMK); 2315, Palos, 22 Oct (DFS).

Sandhill Crane
MC: **14,280**, Greene Vly FP, 19 Nov (REF, KDF)—third highest Illinois count; **6500**, Greene Vly FP, 9 Nov (SDB);1300, Crest Hill (Will Co), 11 Nov (CMA). **LD**: Significant movement (1000+) through ne. Illinois (Lake/Cook/Du Page Cos), 3 Dec (m.ob.).

Black-bellied Plover
EA: 25 Jul, Montrose H (GAW); 9 Aug, LCal (WJM); 12 Aug, IBSP (EWW). **MC**: 10, LCal, 24 Aug (WJM); 10, Momence (Kankakee Co), 20 Sep (JBH). **LD**: 4 Nov, Dallas City (Haneoek Co) (PR); 20 Oct (3), Momence (Kankakee Co) (JBH); 15 Oct, JP (GD, SAD).

American Golden-Plover
EA: 26 Jul, Dunham Road Sod Farms (McHenry Co) (DTW). **MC**: 58, Momence (Kankakee Co), 17 Oct (JBH). **LD**: 31 Oct (5), Montrose H (GAW); 31 Oct (10), Kankakee (SDB); 28 Oct (22), IBSP (EWW, APS).

Semipalmated Plover
EA: 10 Jul, LCal (CAM); 14 Jul, Chau (RGB, SNB); 16 Jul, HL (KAM). **MC**: 60, Chau, 11 Aug (KAM); 20, Rice L, 4 Aug (DMK); 14, Great Lakes Naval Training Center (Lake Co), 1 Aug (DRD); 9, Montrose H, 29 Aug (GAW); 8, Chau, 8 Sep (RGB, SNB). **LD**: 10 Oct (9), Hidden L FP (Du Page Co) (JDC); 4 Oct, JP (PRC).

Piping Plover
EA: 1 Aug, Great Lakes Naval Training Center (Lake Co) (DRD). **MC**: 2, HL, 1 Aug (FRH); 2, Montrose H, 14 Aug (RDH). **LD**: 28 Aug, Montrose H (ESG, JRRS).

Killdeer
MC: **3000**, Two Rivers NWR, 20 Jul (DMK); **2000**, HL, 20 Jul (DMK); 475, Clear L (Mason Co), 18 Aug (RGB, SNB); 210, e. Kankakee Co, 7 Oct (DFS); 200, Dunham Road Sod Farms (McHenry Co), 1 Sep (SDB).

Black-necked Stilt
2, Chau & Clear L (Mason Co), 6-25 Aug (KBR, RGB, SNB, m.ob); 2, Rice L, 22-31 Aug (KBR).

American Avocet
EA: 14 Jul (3), Chau (RGB, SNB); 23 Jul (2), Carl.C (DMK). **MC**: 9, Clear L (Mason Co), 15 Sep (RGB, SNB). **LD**: 2-23 Oct, Carl.B (KAM); 1 Oct, Chau (RLJ); 1 Oct (4), Rend L (LS).

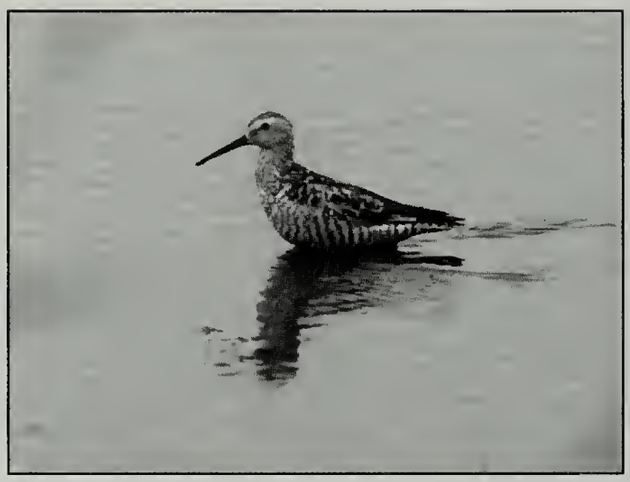
Spotted Sandpiper
EA: 1 Jul, HL (FRH); 15 Jul, Wabash Co (CLH). **MC**: 21, Chau, 21 Jul (RGB, SNB);12, Two Rivers NWR, 12 Jul (DMK, HDB); 10, Montrose H, 3 Aug (GAW). **LD**: 30 Oct, Kankakee (JBH); 15 Oct, IBSP (KAM); 15 Oct, L Charleston (Coles Co) (RB).

Solitary Sandpiper
EA: 2 Jul, Carl.C (DMK); 2 Jul, LCal (WJM); 3 Jul, Rollins Savanna FP (Lake Co) (SDB). **MC**: 21, Rend L (Jefferson Co), 5 Aug (KAM); 15, Rantoul Sanitary Plant (Champaign Co), 15 & 16 Aug (SDB); 13, LCal, 26 Aug (WJM). **LD**: 24 Sep, L Shelbyville (Moultrie Co) (TAM).

Immature Piping Plover at Montrose, Cook County. 13 August 2006. Photo by Steve Huggins.

Greater Yellowlegs
EA: 24 Jun, East Cape Girardeau (Alexander Co) (KAM et al.); 29 Jun, LCal (WJM); 2 Jul, Carl.C (DMK); 2 Jul, L Decatur (TAM). **MC**: 121, Chau, 28 Sep (RGB, SNB); 100, Mason Co, 25 Aug (SDB). **LD**: 15 Nov (2), Hennepin L (DFS); 2 Nov, Montrose H (GAW); 29 Oct (2), L Decatur (TAM).

Willet
EA: 3 Jul (2), Montrose H (JRRS); 10 Jul, Carl.C (DMK); 7 Aug, Montrose H



Stilt Sandpiper at Rollins Savanna FP, Lake County. 4 August 2006. Photo by Matthew Fletcher.

(RDH). **MC**: 12, Montrose H, 13 Aug (SJH); 2, Big L (Fulton Co), 27 Aug (TAM, SDB). **LD**: 18 Sep, Montrose H (RDH). **Other:** Rantoul Sanitary Plant (Champaign Co), 20 Aug (BG).

Lesser Yellowlegs
EA: 29 Jun, LCal (WJM); 30 Jun, Baldwin L (St. Clair/Randolph Cos) (DMK); 2 Jul (5), L Decatur (TAM). **MC**: 2000+, Clear L (Mason Co), 18 Aug (SDB).

Upland Sandpiper
EA: 9 Jul, Montrose H (RDH). **MC**: 8, Decatur airport, 5 Aug (TAM); 4, Dunham Road Sod Farms (McHenry Co), 26 Jul (DTW); 4 (nocturnal migrants), Rantoul (Champaign Co), 29-30 Aug (SDB). **LD**: 16 Sep, Greene Vly FP (JDC).

Whimbrel
EA: 27 Aug, Montrose H (DPBC). **LD**: 4 Sep, Northerly I (SJH).

Hudsonian Godwit
EA: 30 Aug, Big L (Fulton Co) (KBR); godwit, sp?, at same site on 25 Aug (SDB, IOS) was likely the same bird.

Ruddy Turnstone
EA: 26 Jul, L Decatur (TAM); 26 Jul, Montrose H (GAW). **MC**: 3, Dunham Road Sod Farms (McHenry Co), 1 Sep (SDB). **LD**: 5 Sep, Montrose H (GAW).

Red Knot
EA: 25 Jul, Chau (KBR); 19 Aug (juv), LCal (WJM). **MC**: 2, Wauk., 30 Aug (JSS).

Sanderling
EA: 12 Jul (7), Montrose H (JRRS); 26 Jul (2 ad.), L Decatur (TAM). **MC**: 44, Montrose H, 26 Jul (GAW); 26, JP, 1 Sep (KMC); 23, Wauk., 18 Jul (JSS); 21, Great Lakes Naval Training Center (Lake Co), 30 Aug (EWW). **LD**: 12 Nov (3), Wauk. (RDH); 12 Nov (3), Montrose H (GAW).

Semipalmated Sandpiper
EA: 13 Jul, Rollins Savanna FP (Lake Co) (JSS); 16 Jul (2), HL (KAM). **MC**: 850, Clear L (Mason Co), 18 Aug (RGB, SNB). **LD**: 1 Oct, La Salle L (La Salle Co) (DJS).

Western Sandpiper
EA: 10 Jul, Carl.C (DMK); 20 Jul (2), Two Rivers NWR (DMK); 30 Jul (2), HL (KAM); 6 Aug, Wauk. (DTW). **MC**: 4, Rice L, 4 Aug (DMK); 4, Carl.C, 19-20 Aug (DMK); 3, Sanganois CA (Mason Co), 27 Aug (GAW, TAM, SDB, IOS).

Least Sandpiper
EA: 1 Jul (16), Wabash Co (CLH); 2 Jul, Carl.C (DMK); 2 Jul (5), L Decatur (TAM); 3 Jul (4), Rollins Savanna FP (Lake Co), (SDB). **MC**: 1600+, Chau & Clear L (Mason Co), 18 Aug (SDB). **LD**: 15 Nov, Hennepin L (DFS).

White-rumped Sandpiper
EA: 29 Jul, Wauk. (DTW); 20 Aug, Rantoul Sanitary Plant (Champaign Co) (BG). **LD**: 13 Oct, Rock Cut SP (Winnebago Co) (DTW, LGB); 10-14 Sep, L Decatur (TAM).

Baird's Sandpiper
EA: 26 Jul (ad.), Wauk. (EWW). **MC**: 9, Monmouth (Warren Co), 17 Oct (JDC); 4, Rantoul Sanitary Plant (Champaign Co), 20 Aug (BG); 3, Dunham Road Sod Farms (McHenry Co), 1 Sep (SDB); 3, L Decatur, 19 Sep (TAM). **LD**: 21 Oct, Carl.C (DMK); 10 Oct, Rock Cut SP (Winnebago Co) (LGB); 9 Oct, Wauk. (CSF).

Pectoral Sandpiper
EA: **21 Jun**, LCal (WJM); 9 Jul, HL (FRH). **MC**: 6000+, Chau & Clear L (Mason Co), 18 Aug (SDB); 3000, Two Rivers NWR, 20 Jul (DMK), 2000+, Swan L (Jersey Co), 21 Aug (KAM); 1500, HL, 20 Jul (DMK). **LD**: 14 Oct (6), Carl.C (DMK).

Purple Sandpiper
EA: 2-12 Nov, Wauk. (AFS, NAL:ph, RDH, WSS, m.ob.). **LD**: 26 Nov, IBSP (JV:ph).

Dunlin
EA: **26 Jul**, L Decatur (TAM). **MC**: 20, (see below); 9, Carl.C, 5 Nov (DMK). **LD**: 25 Nov, L Decatur (TAM); 13 Nov (20), Evergreen L (Woodford/McLean Cos) (MW); 12 Nov, Montrose H (GAW); 5 Nov (2), JP (PRC).

Stilt Sandpiper
EA: 20 Jul (3), Two Rivers NWR (DMK); 29 Jul, HL (TAM, DMK); 30 Jul, Swan L (Jersey Co) (KAM). **MC**: 175, Clear L (Mason Co), 27 Aug (TAM, SDB). **LD**: 23 Oct (35), Carl.B (KAM); 21 Oct, HL (FRH).

Purple Sandpiper at Waukegan, Lake County. 10 November 2006. Photo by Nolan Lameka.

Buff-breasted Sandpiper
EA: 29 Jul (2), Carl.C (DMK). **MC**: 14, Dunham Road Sod Farms (McHenry Co), 27 Aug (DJS); 14, Rantoul Sanitary Plant (Champaign Co), 28 Aug (BG); 13, Cherry Valley (Boone Co), 26 Aug (DTW); 6, Sanganois CA (Mason Co) (SDB). **LD**: 1 Oct, HL (FRH).

RUFF
18-19 Jul, HL (JPZ:ph (videotape); FRH:ph; DMK:ph); 8 Aug, Chau (*SAC).

Short-billed Dowitcher
EA: 2 Jul (4), Carl.L (DMK); 4 Jul (3), LCal (WJM, JRRS). **MC**: 150, Chau, 17 Aug (SDB); 46, Clear L (Mason Co), 11 Aug (RGB, SNB). **LD**: 1 Oct, La Salle L (La Salle Co) (DJS).

Wilson's Phalarope at Rollins Savanna FP, Lake County. 4 September 2006. Photo by Matthew Fletcher.

Long-billed Dowitcher
EA: **23 Jul** (ad.), Dunham Road Sod Farms (McHenry Co) (DFS). **MC**: 157, Chau, 6 Oct (RGB, SNB). **LD**: 23 Oct (30), Carl.L (KAM).

Wilson's Snipe
EA: 20 Jul, Two Rivers NWR (DMK). **MC**: 51, Carl.L, 23 Oct (KAM); 31, Chau, 6 Oct (RGB, SNB); 30+, Springbrook Pr. FP (Du Page Co), 15 Oct (UWG); 23, Dunham Road Sod Farms (McHenry Co), 1 Sep (SDB).

American Woodcock
EA: 19 Sep (2), IBSP (EWW). **MC**: 4, Carl.C, 29 Oct (DMK). **LD**: 14 Nov, Grant P (DFS).

Wilson's Phalarope
EA: 9 Jul, LCal (WJM); 20 Jul, Two Rivers NWR (DMK). **MC**: 10 & 7, Clear L (Mason Co), 27 Aug & 17 Aug resp. (SDB); 3, Chau, 4 Aug (DMK). **LD:** 18 Sep, Urbana (SDB).

Red-necked Phalarope
EA: 12 Aug, Rice L (KBR); 20 Aug, Two Rivers NWR (MST). **MC**: **16**, Clear L (Mason Co), 27 Aug (TAM, SDB); 13, Rice L, 17 Aug (KBR).

Red Phalarope
22 Aug, Rice L (KBR).

Jaeger, sp?
4 Nov, Montrose H (RDH).

PARASITIC JAEGER
19-25 Sep, Heidecke L (Grundy Co) (*SAC, CMA:ph, m.ob.).

Laughing Gull at Montrose, Cook County. 7 August 2006. Photo by Kanae Hirabayashi.

Laughing Gull
MC: 2, various dates Jul-Aug, Carl.C (DKM), with season total of at least 4 individuals. **Others**: 10-14 Sep (juv.), L Decatur (TAM); 7 Aug, Montrose H (KH:ph).

Franklin's Gull
EA: 17 Aug, Rice L (SDB); 26 Aug, Carl.C (DMK). **MC**: 10, Carl.C, 9 & 14 Oct (DMK); 5, Montrose H, 31 Oet (GAW). **LD**: 5 Nov, Carl.C (DMK et al.); 1 Nov (2), L Decatur (TAM).

Bonaparte's Gull
EA: 9 Aug (juv.), LCal (WJM). **MC**: **6800**, Carl.L, 5 Nov (DFS, REF et al.); 1000, L Decatur, 11 Nov (TAM); 385, Heidecke L (Grundy Co), 21 Oct (DFS).

Ring-billed Gull
MC: 8000, Carl.C, 30 Sep-1 Oct (DMK).

California Gull
23 Oct (2nd yr), Carl.C (CLH); 29 Oct-11 Nov (1st yr), L Decatur (TAM:ph); 18 Nov (ad.), IBSP (*DFS).

Herring Gull
MC: 5600, Winthrop H, 18 Nov (DFS).

Thayer's Gull
EA: **29 Aug** (ad.), Winthrop H (CSF:ph); 18 Oct, Grant P (DFS); 24 Oct (ad.), Montrose H (GAW). **MC**: 8, Winthrop H, 18 Nov (RDH).

Iceland Gull
EA: 18 Nov (ad.), Winthrop H (RDH). **MC**: 3, n. Cook/s. Lake Co lakefront, 11 Nov (GAW).

Lesser Black-backed Gull
EA: 29 Aug, Winthrop H (CSF:ph); 2 Sep, Wauk. (SDB); 12 Sep, Great Lakes Naval Training Center (Lake Co) (DRD); 21 Sep, Carl.C (KAM). **MC**: 9, Winthrop H, 18 Nov (RDH); 4, Carl.C, 18 Nov (DMK, JWE); 2, East Peoria (Tazewell Co), 15 Oct (MB); 2, Kirk Road landfill (Kane Co), 11 Nov (SAC).

Glaucous Gull
EA: 18 Nov, Winthrop H (RDH, UWG et al.).

Great Black-backed Gull
EA: 11 Nov, Kirk Road landfill (Kane Co) (SAC); 11 Nov (1st yr), Winthrop H (GAW).

Sabine's Gull
EA: 15 Sep, Carl.C (DKM); 19 Sep, L&D #14 (Rock Island Co) (SMF). **MC**: 2, Carl.C, 9 & 14 Oct (DMK). **LD**: 10 Nov (juv.), Montrose H (RDH); 28 Oct (ad.), Carl.C (DMK, CLH, RES, BR).

Black-legged Kittiwake
EA: 11-12 Nov, Carl.C (DMK, m.ob.); 25-26 Nov, L Shelbyville (Moultrie Co) (TAM, MFD, KF, TF). **MC**: 3 (1st yr), Gillson P, Wilmette (Cook Co), 15 Nov (RDH); 2, Winthrop H, 27 Oct (RE).

Least Tern
MC: 2, Fort Massac SP (Massac Co), 9 Aug (CLH). **LD**: 13 Aug (1st yr), East Fork L (Richland Co) (CLH, RES).

Caspian Tern
EA: 4 Jul (10), Carl.C (DMK); 8 Jul (3), East Fork L (Richland Co) (CLH); 13 Jul, Jasper Co (RES); 14 Jul, HL (FRH). **MC**: 50, Carl.C, 12 Aug (DMK); 36, Banner Marsh FWA (Fulton/Peoria Cos), 29 Aug (LLH); 29, LCal, 19 Aug (WJM). **LD**: 1 Oct (2), IBSP (EWW); 1 Oct (3), Chau (RLJ); 1 Oct (5), Carl.C (DMK).

Black Tern
EA: 2 Jul, L Deeatur (TAM); 26 Jul, HL (FRH); 27 Jul (2), East Fork L (Richland Co) (CLH); 27 Jul (10), Carl.C (DMK); 1 Aug, Rantoul (Champaign Co) (SDB). **MC**: 40, Rice L, 22 & 26 Aug (KBR, SDB resp.); 40, Carl.C, 10 Sep (DMK); 25,

Short-eared Owl being harassed by a gull. 22 October 2006. Photo by Kanae Hirabayashi.

Common Nighthawk at Illinois Beach State Park, Lake County. 17 September 2006. Photo by Steve Huggins.

L Decatur, 4 Sep (TAM). **LD**: 25 Sep, Heidecke L (Grundy Co) (KAM).

Common Tern
EA: 21 Jul, East Fork L (Richland Co) (CLH); 26 Jul, Montrose H (GAW). **MC**: 40, Carl.C, 9 Oct (DMK). **LD**: 9 Oct, (see above); 5 Oct (2), L Decatur (TAM); 5 Oct, HL (FRH).

Forster's Tern
EA: 4 Jul (3), Carl.C (DMK); 13 Jul, Jasper Co (RES). **MC**: 22, Heidecke L (Grundy Co), 8 Oct (DJS); 16, Carl.C, 19 Aug (DMK). **LD**: **25 Nov**, Rend L (Franklin Co) (LW); 14 Oct (2), Burnham P, LCal (GAW).

Rock Dove
MC: 625, s. Cook Co, 11 Nov (DFS); 500, Champaign (Champaign Co), 9 Nov (RLJ); 212, Linc. P, 25 Oct (GAW).

Eurasian Collared-Dove
MC: 26, L&D #21 (Adams Co), 5 Sep (AGD); 21, Mt. Erie (Wayne Co), 30 Sep (RES); 15, Havanna (Mason Co), 26 Aug (SDB); 14, Leverett (Champaign Co), 26 Sep (SDB); 8, West Frankfort (Franklin Co), 4 Sep (LS). **Other:** 26 Aug, Genoa (Kane Co) (DTW).

WHITE-WINGED DOVE
1 Oct, IBSP (*EWW).

Mourning Dove
MC: **800**, Carl.C, 4 Sep (DMK); 383, E. St. Louis (St. Clair Co), 19 Oct (KAM); 263, Ford Co, 10 Oct (DFS); 208, McDonough Co, 4 Sep (LLH); 134, Grundy Co, 21 Oct (DFS).

Monk Parakeet
MC: 149, Burnham, LCal, 29 Oct (WJM); 30, JP, 6 Aug (PRC); 20, Calumet P, LCal, 11 Nov (UWG).

Yellow-billed Cuckoo
EA: 27 Jul, Montrose H (GAW); 12 Aug, IBSP (EWW). **MC**: 7, Siloam Springs SP (Adams/Brown Cos), 18 Aug (AGD); 5, *Mason & Fulton*, 25 Aug (SDB). **LD**: 28 Oct, Silver Springs SP (Kendall Co) (DJS); 14 Oct, Rockfd (DTW); 12 Oct, Kankakee (JBH); 9 Oct, Carl.C (DMK); 9 Oct, 18 Bottoms (Franklin Co) (LS).

Black-billed Cuckoo
EA: 28 Jul, Evanston (Cook Co) (EWW). **MC**: Singles only. **LD**: 27 Sep, JP (PRC); 27 Sep, Grundy Co (JBH); 25 Sep, Thatcher Wds FP (Cook Co) (JSA).

Barn Owl
MC: 2, Pr.Rdg, 6 Oct-28 Nov (RES:ph). **Others**: 21 Nov, Marion Co (RES); 28 Oct (road kill) & 17 Nov (road kill), Breese (Clinton Co) (BR).

Eastern Screech-Owl
MC: 3, Carl.C, 7 Oct (DMK).

Great Horned Owl
MC: 4, *Mason & Fulton*, 26-27 Aug (SDB); 3, Carl.C, 26 Aug (DMK).

Barred Owl
MC: 4, Chau, 26 Aug (SDB); 4, Carl.C, 7 Oct (DMK). **Other**: 26 Aug, JP (GD, SAD).

Long-eared Owl
EA: 24 Oct, Grant P (DFS et al.). **MC**: 3, Carl.C, 25 Nov (DMK, CPA, DR).

Short-eared Owl
EA: 15 Oct (2), Northerly I (RDH); 15 Oct, Greene Vly FP (REF, KDF); 2 Nov, Sidell Twp (Vermilion Co) (JOS). **MC**: **35**, Ferrin (Clinton Co), 25 Nov (DMK, CPA)—**record fall high count** and only fall count >10 away from L Michigan; 12, Northerly I, 9 Nov (DFS); 6, IBSP, 29 Oct (EWW); 6, Bartel Grasslands (Cook Co), 5 Nov (WJM); 4, Montrose H, 31 Oct (GAW) & 9 Nov (RDH).

Northern Saw-whet Owl
EA: 24 Nov, Rend L (LS); 25 Nov, Carl.C (DMK, CPA, DR, BR).

Common Nighthawk
MC: **2000**, Chicago Botanic Gardens, Glencoe (Cook Co), 26 Aug (DRD); **1630**, Zion (Lake Co), 25 Aug (EWW); 340, Downers Grove (Du Page Co), 26 Aug (REF, KDF); 150, Little America (Fulton Co), 27 Aug (TAM); 110, Morton Arb., 24 Aug (JDC); 100, Urbana, 30 Aug (BS). **LD**: **3 Nov**, West Dundee (Kane Co) (KML); **31 Oct**, O'Fallon (St. Clair Co) (KAM); **28 Oct**, Springfield (Sangamon Co) (RLJ).

Whip-poor-will
LD: **21 Oct** (window casualty), Chi (CBCM); 5 Oct, Douglas-Hart NC (Coles Co) (LBH, m.ob.). Few reports.

Chimney Swift
MC: **2000+**, HL, 20 Sep (KAM); 448, Kankakee, 1 Sep (JBH); 390, Montrose H, 17 Aug (GAW); 256, JP, 11 Oct (PRC); 182, JP, **31 Oct** (PRC). **LD**: **10 Nov** (2), Northerly I (DFS); **9 Nov**, Montrose H (RDH); **9 Nov**, Downers Grove (Du Page Co) (REF, KDF); **8 Nov**, Linc. P (GAW); **8 Nov**, JP (PRC); **7 Nov**, Springfield (Sangamon Co) (RLJ); **5 Nov**, Highland Park (Lake Co) (UWG); **5 Nov**, LCal (WJM); **30 Oct**, Kankakee (JBH); 22 Oct (3), L Deeatur (TAM); 20 Oct, HL (FRH); 15 Oct, Buffalo Rock SP (La Salle Co) (DJS); 9 Oct (4), Rockfd (DTW). See separate article in this issue on the remarkably late departure dates.

Ruby-throated Hummingbird
MC: 100+, West Frankfort (Franklin Co), 15 Aug (LS); 12, *Mason & Fulton*, 25 Aug (SDB). **LD**: 8 Oct, Downers Grove (Du Page Co) (REF, KDF); 6 Oct, River Forest (Cook Co) (JSA); 5 Oct, Boone Co (AEB).

RUFOUS HUMMINGBIRD
21 Jul (ad. male), Mount Carmel (Wabash Co) (*CnS); 23-26 Aug (ad. male), Knox Co (JnS:ph, DJM, MJB, PR et al.); late Oct-early Nov, Columbia (Monroe Co) (fide KAM); 10 Oct into Dec (ad. male), Woodstock (McHenry Co) (DWD:ph, banded VMK).

Belted Kingfisher
EA: 12 Aug, IBSP (EWW). **MC**: 4, Carl.C, 1 Oet (DMK). **LD**: 20 Nov, IBSP (EWW).

Red-headed Woodpecker
EA: 1 Aug, Montrose H (GAW); 20 Aug, LCal (WJM); 24 Aug, Zion (Lake Co) (EWW); 2 Sep, JP (WSS). **MC**: 30, Carl.C, 24 Sep (DMK); 20, Sand Pr.-Scrub Oak NPsv (Mason Co), 14 Oct (TVL); 3, Linc. P, 9 Sep (GAW).

Red-bellied Woodpecker
EA: 11 Oct, JP (PRC); 11 Oct, Grant P (DFS). **MC**: 18, Salt Crk Wds, 23 Sep (DFS); 16, Will Co, 30 Sep (DFS); 16, Ford Co, 10 Oct (DFS); 16, Carl.L, 23 Oct (KAM). **LD**: 15 Nov, JP (PRC).

Yellow-bellied Sapsucker
EA: 23 Aug, JP (CH, PJP);7 Sep, Kankakee (JBH); 9 Sep, Montrose H (GAW); 18 Sep, Urbana (EJC); 23 Sep, Carl.C (DMK). **MC**: 24, JP, 25 Sep (PRC, KMC); 23, Grant P, 16 Oct (DFS).

Downy Woodpecker
MC: 20, Merwin NPsv (McLean Co), 29 Oct (MW); 15, Salt Crk Wds, 21 Sep (DFS).

Hairy Woodpecker
MC: 7, Salt Crk Wds, 23 Sep (DFS).

Northern Flicker
EA: 19 Sep (2), JP (PRC). **MC**: 46, JP, 24 Sep (PRC); 39, IBSP, 25 Sep (EWW); 35+, Clin.L, 23 Sep (MW); 31, Salt Crk Wds, 21 Sep (DFS).

Pileated Woodpecker
MC: 4, Siloam Springs SP (Adams/Brown Cos), 18 Aug (AGD).

Olive-sided Flycatcher
EA: **24 Jul**, Scott Co (TLK, CAT); 4 Aug, Meadbrk P (CA); 8 Aug, Kankakee (JBH); 15 Aug, HL (FRH); 22 Aug, Wayne Co (CLH, RES). **MC**: 2, Glenview (Cook Co), 1 Sep (ABA); 2, Linc. P, 14 Sep (SJH). **LD**: 18 Sep, JP (PRC).

Eastern Wood-Pewee
MC: **33**, Carl.L, 11 Sep (KAM); 14, Mackinaw Bluffs Corridor (Woodford Co), 24 Sep (MEF); 12, Clin.L, 23 Sep (MW); 8, Starved Rock SP (La Salle Co), 1 Sep (EWW); 8, L Le-Aqua-Na SP (Stephenson Co), 20 Sep (EWW). **LD**: 24 Oct, Greene Vly FP (JDC); 16 Oct, Grant P (DFS); 11 Oct, JP (PRC).

Ruby-throated Hummingbird on native plants at Volo Bog, Lake County. 17 August 2006. Photo by Matthew Fletcher.

Yellow-bellied Flycatcher
EA: 15 Aug, Kankakee (JBH); 17 Aug, Rollins Savanna FP (Lake Co) (JSS); 26 Aug, Carl.C (DMK). **MC**: 4, Linc. P, 4 Sep (NLB). **LD**: 24 Sep, LCal (WJM); 20 Sep, Waterfall Glen FP (Du Page Co) (REF, KDF); 17 Sep, Carl.C (DMK); 14 Sep, JP (PRC).

Acadian Flycatcher
LD: 24 Sep, Woodridge (Du Page Co) (JDC); 15 Sep (2), Adams Co (AGD).

Alder Flycatcher
EA: 15 Aug, Du Page Co (PAM). **MC**: 4, Carl.C, 23 Sep (DMK). **LD**: 30 Sep, Carl.C (DMK).

Willow Flycatcher
LD: 1 Oct, Elsen's Hill, West Du Page Wds (Du Page Co) (PAM); 15 Sep (2), Adams Co (AGD).

Least Flycatcher
EA: 13 Aug, Shelbyville FWA (Moultrie Co) (TAM); 13 Aug, IBSP (EWW). **MC**: 4, Montrose H, 3 Sep (GAW). **LD**: 7 Oct, Carl.C (DMK, KAM); 3 Oct (2), Grant P (DFS). **Other**: 12 Oct (probably this species), Douglas-Hart NC (Coles Co) (LBH, m.ob.).

Eastern Phoebe
EA: 15 Aug, Montrose H (GAW); 6 Sep (2), JP (PRC, KMC). **MC**: 12, Carl.C, 24 Sep (DMK). **LD**: 9 Nov, JP (KMC).

SAY'S PHOEBE
22-23 Sep, IBSP (MJF:ph, SJH:ph, m.ob.); 24 Sep, Greene Vly FP (*REF, KDF). See article and photo in this issue.

Great Crested Flycatcher
EA: 6 Aug, JP (PRC). **LD**: 1 Oct, IBSP (EWW).

Western Kingbird
LD: 18 Sep, Montrose H (RDH). **Other:** 5 Sep, Orland Grasslands (Cook Co) (JN, MN, WE).

Eastern Kingbird
MC: **155**, Carl.C, 25 Aug (KAM); **80+**, se. Franklin Co, 9 Sep (LS). **LD**: 1 Oct, Chau (RLJ); 29 Sep, Bemis Wds FP (Cook Co) (DFS).

Loggerhead Shrike
MC: 4, Jasper Co, 25 Sep (RES); 3, Pyramid SP (Perry Co), 12 Nov (DMK, TAM). **LD**: 6 Nov, Woodford Co (WCH).

Northern Shrike
EA: **29 Sep**, Paul Douglas FP (Cook Co) (SS); 16 Oct (window casualty), Chi (DEW); 20 Oct, Montrose H (GAW); 21 Oct, Fermi (UWG, REF, KDF); 22 Oct - end of period, IBSP (VB, m.ob.). **Others**: 30 Oct, Montrose H (GAW); 29 Oct - end of period, Rollins Savanna FP (Lake Co) (SDB, SLD, m.ob.); 3 Nov, Fort Sheridan FP (Lake Co) (GAW); 6 Nov, Lake Forest (Lake Co) (CG); 9 Nov - end of period, Greene Vly FP (JfS, m.ob.); 14 Nov, Kankakee (JBH); 19 Nov, Clin L. (GSL); 20 Nov, Springbrook Pr. FP (Du Page Co) (PAM); 22 Nov, Pratts Wayne Wds FP (Du Page Co) (PAM); 23 Nov, Goose L Pr. State Natural Area (Grundy Co) (CMA); 25 Nov, L Arlington, Arlington Heights (Cook Co) (JCB); 26 Nov, Paul Douglas FP (Cook Co) (CSF:ph—video); 27 Nov, Winthrop H (CSF).

Far left: Winter Wren at Lincoln Park, Cook County. 29 October 2006. Photo by Emil Martinec.

Brown Creeper at Lincoln Park, Cook County. 29 October 2006. Photo by Emil Martinec

White-eyed Vireo
MC: 14, Carl.L, 11 Sep (KAM); 5, Adams Co, 4 Aug (ADG). **LD**: 15 Oct, Salt Crk Wds (DFS).

Bell's Vireo
LD: 5 Sep, w. of Charleston (Coles Co) (LBH).

Yellow-throated Vireo
EA: 17 Aug, Linc. P (KH)—**record early fall arrival** by two days. **LD**: 17 Oct, Morton Arb. (PAM); 5 Oct, Bemis Wds FP (Cook Co) (DFS).

Blue-headed Vireo
EA: 30 Aug, Stoney Ford FP (Cook Co) (JD). **MC**: 4, Salt Crk Wds, 29 Sep (DFS); 4, Carl.C, 9 Oct (DMK). **LD**: 30 Oct, Montrose H (GAW); 29 Oct, JP (PRC); 27 Oct, Boone Co (AEB); 23 Oct, Salt Crk Wds (DFS); 23 Oct, Carl.L (KAM).

Warbling Vireo
EA: 12 Aug, IBSP (EWW). **MC**: 15 (many singing*) Mason & Fulton*, 26 Aug (SDB); 8, Carl.C, 10 Sep (DMK); 5, Meredosia NWR (Brown/Cass/Morgan Cos), 2 Sep (EWW). **LD**: 21 Sep, Carl.C (KAM); 17 Sep, Waterfall Glen FP (Du Page Co) (GAW); 17 Sep, Carl.C (DMK, WCR).

Philadelphia Vireo
EA: 9 Sep (2), Carl.C (DMK); 9 Sep (window casualty), Chi (CBCM); 12 Sep, Greene Vly FP (UWG); 16 Sep, JP (PRC). **MC**: 4, Salt Crk Wds, 21 & 23 Sep (DFS); 3, Carl.C, 11 Sep (KAM). **LD**: 9 Oct, Stoney Ford FP (Cook Co) (JD); 3 Oct, Bloomington (McLean Co) (WCH).

Red-eyed Vireo
MC: 21, Salt Crk Wds, 21 Sep (DFS); 19, Carl.L, 30 Aug (KAM). **LD**: 15 Oct, Kankakee (JBH); 8 Oct, JP (PRC).

Blue Jay
EA: 31 Aug, JP (PRC); 16 Sep (11), IBSP (EWW). **MC**: 150, Carl.C, 7 Oct (DMK); 40, w. Will Co, 30 Sep (DFS). **LD**: 25 Oct, JP (PRC).

American Crow
MC: 775, Kankakee, 16 Nov (JBH); 500, E. St. Louis (St. Clair Co), 31 Oct (KAM); 326, JP, 5 Nov (PRC); 125, Carl.C, 26 Nov (DMK); 120, Champaign (Champaign Co), 9 Nov (RLJ).

Fish Crow
MC: 6, St. Clair Co, 3 Aug (KAM). **LD**: 29 Oct, HL (FRH).

Horned Lark
EA: 28 Jul, Montrose H (GAW); 1 Oct, IBSP (EWW). **MC**: 295, Momence (Kankakee Co), 10 Scp (JBH); 200, Carl.C, 19 Nov (DMK); 178, Cherry Valley (Boone Co), 18 Aug (DTW); 150, Dunham Road Sod Farms (McHenry Co), 1 Sep (SDB). **LD**: 26 Nov, IBSP (EWW).

Purple Martin
MC: 231, Banner Marsh FWA (Fulton/Peoria Cos), 29 Aug (LLH); 200, Carl.C, 19 Aug (DMK). **LD**: 14 Sep, Montrose H (GAW).

Tree Swallow
EA: 15 Jul, IBSP (EWW). **MC**: 10,000, Carl.F, 1 Oct (DMK); 10,000, Carl.C, 7 Oct (DMK); 2950, Hennepin L, 5 Oct (DFS).

Northern Rough-winged Swallow
EA: 15 Jul, IBSP (EWW). **MC**: 244, Kankakee, 10 Sep (JBH); 61, Chau, 11 Aug (KAM). **LD**: 29 Oct, East Fork L (Richland Co) (CLH); 25 Oct (4), Kankakee (JBH).

Bank Swallow
MC: 750, *Mason & Fulton*, 26 Aug (SDB); 550, IBSP, 15 Jul (EWW); 118, Momence (Kankakee Co), 3 Aug (JBH). **LD**: 12 Sep, Kankakee (JBH).

Cliff Swallow
LD: 7 Oct, Carl.C (DMK); 19 Sep (35+), IBSP (EWW).

[CAVE SWALLOW
28 Oct, Cook Co.]

Barn Swallow
MC: 800, Carl.F, 1 Oct (DMK); 400, *Mason & Fulton*, 26 Aug (SDB). **LD**: 7 Nov, Northerly I (DFS); 5 Nov, Carl.C (DMK et al.); 1 Nov, HL (FRH).

Carolina Chickadee
MC: 35, Carl.C, 24 Sep (DMK).

Black-capped Chickadee
MC: 49, Salt Crk Wds, 1 Oct (DFS); 41, IBSP, 1 Oct (EWW). **Other:** 26 Nov, Carl.C—second county record (DMK).

Tufted Titmouse
MC: 22, Carl.L, 11 Sep (KAM); 22, Carl.C, 24 Sep (DMK). **Other**: IBSP, 1 Oet (EWW).

Red-breasted Nuthatch
EA: 6 Sep, JP (DCA, KMC); 7 Sep, Downers Grove (Du Page Co) (REF, KDF). **MC**: 32, Morton Arb., 12 Nov (DFS); 15, Lyons Wds FP (Lake Co), 29 Oct (EWW).

White-breasted Nuthatch
EA: 10 Jul, JP (PRC). **MC**: 14, Mackinaw Bluffs Corridor (Woodford Co), 14 Sep (MEF); 13, Carl.L, 30 Aug (KAM); 12, Salt Crk Wds, 24 Sep (DFS). **LD**: 28 Sep, JP (PRC); 26 Sep (window casualty), Chi (CBCM).

Brown Creeper
EA: 18 Sep, JP (PRC, CBA); 30 Sep, Carl.C (DMK). **MC**: **37** (window casualties), Chi, 1 Oct (CBCM)—cf. previous single-observer fall high count of 38 on 16 Oct 2002; 20+, Merwin NPsv (McLean Co), 15 Oct (MW); 14, Grant P, 11 Oct (DFS). **LD**: 2 Dec, Zion (Lake Co) (EWW).

Carolina Wren
MC: **18**, Carl.C, 24 Sep (DMK)—**record fall high** count by three birds; 10, Kankakee, 27 Oct (JBH); 8, w. Will Co, 30 Sep (DFS).

Northern Mockingbird eating berries at Jarvis Bird Sanctuary, Cook County. 16 September 2006. Photo by Kanae Hirabayshi.

House Wren
MC: 20, Carl.C, 9 Sep (DMK); 6, Salt Crk Wds, 29 Sep (DFS). **LD**: 17 Nov, Greene Vly FP (REF, KDF); 29 Oct, Carl.C (DMK); 23 Oct, Salt Crk Wds (DFS); 23 Oct, Kankakee (JBH); 21 Oct, Lockport Pr. (Will Co) (CMA); 20 Oct, Northerly I (DFS).

Winter Wren
EA: 21 Sep (2), JP (PRC); 21 Sep, Montrose H (GAW). **MC**: 21, Salt Crk Wds, 15 Oct (DFS).

Sedge Wren
EA: **2 Aug** (7), Montrose H (GAW). **MC**: **31**, Kankakee, 8 Aug (JBH); **22**, Meadbrk P, 20 Sep (BS). **LD**: **27 Nov**, Pr.Rdg (Marion Co) (CLH); 7 Nov (2), Northerly I (TSS).

Marsh Wren
EA: **6 Aug**, Rockfd (DTW); 16 Sep, IBSP (EWW). **MC**: 9, 18 Bottoms (Franklin Co), 22 Oct (LS). **LD**: 2 Nov, Northerly I (DFS).

Golden-crowned Kinglet
EA: 14 Sep, Greene Vly FP (REF, KDF); 14 Sep, Montrose H (GAW); 15 Sep, Zion (Lake Co) (EWW); 15 Sep, Urbana (SDB). **MC**: 130, JP, 20 Oct (JRRS, PRC); 91, Ford Co, 10 Oct (DFS); 30, Carl.C, 7 Oct (DMK).

Ruby-crowned Kinglet
EA: 6 Sep, Montrose H (GAW); 14 Sep, JP (PRC). **MC**: 60, Carl.C, 7 Oct (DMK); 42, Hennepin L, 5 Oct (DFS); 42, Ford Co, 10 Oct (DFS).

Blue-gray Gnatcatcher
LD: 27 Sep, L Decatur (TAM); 24 Sep (2), Carl.C (DMK); 23 Sep, Weldon Springs SP (DeWitt Co) (JDC).

Eastern Bluebird
MC: 50, Carl.L, 23 Oct (KAM); 42, Kankakee, 19 Oct (JBH); 28, IBSP, 1 Oct (EWW).

Veery
EA: **4 Aug**, Chau (DMK); 15 Aug, Rockfd (DTW); 23 Aug, Montrose H (GAW); 27 Aug, Lyons Wds FP (Lake Co) (EWW). **MC**: 4, Chi, 13 Sep (GAW); 4 (nocturnal migrants), Rantoul (Champaign Co), 29-30 Aug (SDB). **LD**: 1 Oct, IBSP (EWW).

Gray-cheeked Thrush
EA: 6 Sep, JP (PRC). **MC**: 7 (window casualties), Chi, 1 Oct (CBCM); 4, JP, 21 Sep (PRC, KMC). **LD**: 29 Oct, IBSP (EWW); 21 Oct, Kankakee (JBH).

Swainson's Thrush
EA: 17 Aug, Linc. P (KH); 23 Aug (3), Linc. P (GAW); 30 Aug (2), Rockfd (DTW); 31 Aug, JP (PRC). **MC**: **1275** (nocturnal migrants), Rantoul (Champaign Co), 29-30 Aug (SDB)—all-time state high count; **192**, Kankakee, 18 Sep (JBH)—record fall count away from L Michigan; 41, Linc. P, 14 Sep (GAW); 38, JP, 18 Sep (PRC). **LD**: 24 Oct (window casualty), Chi (DEW); 18 Oct, Grant P (DFS).

Hermit Thrush
EA: 15 Sep, JP (KMC). **MC**: 61, IBSP, 1 Oct (EWW); 40, Grant P, 16 Oct (DFS); 40, Linc. P, 21 Oct (GAW).

Wood Thrush
EA: 14 Sep, (see below); 18 Sep, JP (PRC, CBA). **MC**: 5, (nocturnal migrants), Rantoul (Champaign Co), 29-30 Aug (SDB); 4 (window casualties), Chi, 14 Sep (CBCM). **LD**: 22 Oct, JP (CBA); 19 Oct, Douglas-Hart NC (Coles Co) (LBH, m.ob.).

American Robin
MC: **1800**, Kankakee, 27 Oct (JBH); **1200**, Grundy Co, 22 Oct (DFS).

Gray Catbird
EA: **3 Aug**, Montrose H (GAW)—earliest available arrival date amid very scant data. **MC**: **50+**, Clin.L, 23 Sep (MW); **44**, Carl.L, 11 Sep (KAM).

Northern Mockingbird
MC: 5, Pembroke Twp (Kankakee Co), 7 Oct. (DFS).

Brown Thrasher
EA: 17 Sep, JP (PRC). **MC**: 4, JP, 26 Sep (PRC).

European Starling
MC: 3650, Kankakee Co, 11 Nov (DFS); 2800, LCal, 9 Oct (WJM).

American Pipit
EA: 16 Sep, LCal (WJM, JRG et al.); 16 Sep, Greene Vly FP (REF, KDF); 21 Sep, Montrose H (GAW). **MC**: 40, Carl.C, 29 Oct (DMK); 18, Greene Vly FP, 21 Sep (REF, KDF). **LD**: 25 Nov, Macon Co (TAM); 18 Nov, Winthrop H (DFS); 18 Nov, Wauk. (UWG); 12 Nov, Montrose H (GAW); 10 Nov (12), Woodford Co (WCH).

[SPRAGUE'S PIPIT
12 Nov, Perry Co]

Cedar Waxwing
EA: (1st wave) 26 Jul (6), Wauk. (EWW); (2nd wave) 1 Oct (6), IBSP (EWW). **MC**: 800, Kankakee, 27 Oct (JBH); 461, IBSP, 5 Aug; (EWW); 240, Grundy Co, 22 Oct (DFS); 150, Urbana, 15 Sep (SDB). **LD**: (1st wave) 19 Sep (85), L Le-Aqua-Na SP (Stephenson Co) (EWW).

Blue-winged Warbler
MC: **6**, Carl.C, 9 Sep (DMK)—ties previous fall high count from 2004. **LD**: 30 Sep, Mackinaw Bluffs Corridor (Woodford Co) (MEF).

Golden-winged Warbler
EA: **2 Aug**, Linc. P (RDH); 31 Aug, JP (PRC). **MC**: **16**, Carl.C, 9 Sep (DMK)—**record fall high count** by three birds; **10**, Carl.C, 11 Sep (KAM); 4, Montrose H, 9 Sep (GAW). **LD**: 26 Sep, Douglas-Hart NC (Coles Co) (LBH, m.ob.); 20 Sep, Waterfall Glen FP (Du Page Co) (REF, KDF).

Tennessee Warbler
EA: 15 Aug (5), Montrose H (GAW); 15 Aug, Rockfd (DTW); 17 Aug, Chau (SDB). **MC**: 60, Carl.C, 7 & 9 Oct (DMK); 29, w. Will Co, 30 Sep (DFS). **LD**: 3 Nov, Carl.C (DMK); 31 Oct, Kankakee (JBH); 23 Oct, Montrose H (GAW); 21 Oct, Grundy Co (DFS).

Orange-crowned Warbler
EA: 25 Sep, JP (PRC); 28 Sep, HL (FRH). **MC**: 10, Salt Crk Wds, 15 Oct (DFS); 10, Grant P, 16 Oct (DFS); 9, Urbana, 19 Oct (BG); 7, Linc. P, 21 Oct (GAW). **LD**: **26 Nov**, Kankakee (JBH); 14 Nov, Grant P (DFS).

Nashville Warbler
EA: 17 Aug, Linc. P (KH); 17 Aug, Montrose H (GAW); 21 Aug, JP (KMC). **MC**: 15, Salt Crk Wds, 17 Sep (DFS); 10, Carl.C, 9 Oct (DMK). **LD**: 18 Nov, MeadbrkP (GSL); 8 Nov (2), Linc. P (GAW); 5 Nov, Kankakee (JBH); 31 Oct, Northerly I (DFS).

Prairie Warbler at Montrose, Cook County. 18 September 2006. This is a late date for this species. Photo by Kanae Hirabayashi.

Northern Parula
MC: **8**, Carl.C, 17 Sep (DMK, WCR)—ties previous fall maxima. **LD**: 15 Oct (2), Carl.C (DMK); 5 Oct, Hennepin L (DFS).

Yellow Warbler
MC: 6, Montrose H, 1 Aug (GAW). **LD**: 3 Oct, Bloomington (McLean Co) (WCH).

Chestnut-sided Warbler
EA: 15 Aug, Urbana (DLT); 16 Aug, Linc. P (GAW); 21 Aug, JP (KMC). **MC**: 16, Carl.C, 17 Sep (DMK, WCR); 8, Linc. P, 30 Aug (GAW); 7, Salt Crk Wds, 24 Sep (DFS); 6, Urbana, 15 Sep (SDB). **LD**: **19 Oct**, Kankakee (JBH); 14 Oct, Sand Pr.-Scrub Oak NPsv (Mason Co) (TVL); 29 Sep, Salt Crk Wds (DFS).

Magnolia Warbler
EA: 15 Aug, Urbana (DLT); 17 Aug, Linc. P (KH); 22 Aug, JP (KMC). **MC**: **53**, JP, 24 Sep (PRC); 21, Carl.L, 11 Sep (KAM); 20+, Clin.L, 23 Sep (MW); 20, Salt Crk Wds, 24 Sep (DFS). **LD**: **6 Nov**, Bemis Wds FP (Cook Co) (DFS)—**record late date** excluding one Dec record from 1981; 21 Oct, Douglas-Hart NC (Coles Co) (DM).

Cape May Warbler
EA: **15 Aug** (2), Montrose H (GAW); 21 Aug, JP (KMC). **MC**: **51**, JP, 18 Sep (PRC)—**record fall high count** by 17 birds; **28**, Montrose H, 5 Sep (GAW). **LD**: 9 Oct, L Springfield (Sangamon Co) (KAM); 7 Oct, Carl.C (DMK); 4 Oct, Linc. P (GAW).

Black-throated Blue Warbler
EA: **18 Aug** (female), Linc. P (GAW); **19 Aug**, Waterfall Glen FP (Du Page Co) (REF, KDF); 31 Aug, Kankakee (JBH). **MC**: 2, several Chi area records, 1-28 Sep. **LD**: 22 Oct, Montrose H (GAW); 18 Oct, Grant P (DFS). **Other:** MeadbrkP (male), 30 Sep (DLT).

Yellow-rumped Warbler
EA: **16 Aug**, Linc. P (GAW); 23 Aug, JP (CH). **MC**: 310, Salt Crk Wds, 1 Oct (DFS).

Black-throated Green Warbler
EA: **15 Aug** (2), Urbana (DLT); 20 Aug, Rockfd (DTW); 29 Aug, Montrose H (GAW). **MC**: 20+, Clin.L, 23 Sep (MW); 16, Carl.C, 17 Sep (DMK); 13, Chinquapin Bluffs NPsv (Woodford Co), 1 Sep (MW); 8, McDonough Co, 4 Sep (LLH); 8, Salt Crk Wds, 23 Sep (DFS). **LD**: 24 Oct, Montrose H (GAW).

Blackburnian Warbler
EA: 15 Aug, Urbana (DLT); 16 Aug, Kankakee (JBH). **MC**: 4, Carl.C, 25 Sep (KAM). **LD**: 9 Oct, Carl.C (DMK); 4 Oct, Linc. P (GAW); 4 Oct, Kankakee (JBH); 27 Sep, JP (PRC); 24 Sep, Salt Crk Wds (DFS); 24 Sep, L Shelbyville (Moultrie Co) (TAM).

Yellow-throated Warbler
L.D.: 22 Sep, Springfield (Sangamon Co) (DO:ph).

Pine Warbler
EA: 27 Aug, Urbana (DLT); 11 Sep, Stark Co (JDC). **MC**: **10**, Carl.C, 30 Sep (DMK)—second highest fall count. **LD**: **11 Nov**, Carl.C (DMK); 15 Oct, JP (PRC); 1 Oct, IBSP (EWW).

Prairie Warbler
LD: 18 Sep, Montrose H (APS, KH:ph).

Palm Warbler
EA: 31 Aug, Douglas-Hart NC (Coles Co) (LBH, m.ob.); 6 Sep (4), JP (PRC). **MC**: 110+, IBSP, 25 Sep (EWW). **LD**: 22 Nov, Montrose H (RDH); 15 Nov, Hennepin L (DFS). **Other**: "**Yellow Palm Warbler**" (subspecies *hypochrysea*): Northerly I, 7 Nov (*DFS, *TSS).

Bay-breasted Warbler
EA: 23 Aug, Linc. P (GAW); 29 Aug, Banner Marsh FWA (Fulton/Peoria Cos) (LLH); 31 Aug (2), Rockfd (DTW); 1 Sep, JP (SF). **MC**: 7, Salt Crk Wds, 21 Sep (DFS); 6, Carl.C, 11 Sep (KAM). **LD**: **11-12 Nov**, Kankakee (JBH:ph).

Blackpoll Warbler
EA: 20 Aug, Urbana (DLT); 22 Aug (3), JP (KMC). **MC**: 27, JP, 18 Sep (PRC); 25, Grant P, 1 Sep (NLB); 25, Linc. P, 18 Sep (RDH); 12, Bemis Wds FP (Cook Co), 20 Sep (DFS). **LD**: 20 Oct, Grant P (DFS).

Cerulean Warbler
No reports.

Black-and-white Warbler
EA: 15 Aug, Urbana (DLT); 19 Aug, JP (KMC). **MC**: 12, Carl.C, 9 & 24 Sep (DMK); 9, Urbana, 15 Sep (SDB); 7, Linc. P, 20 Sep (GAW); 7, JP, 24 Sep (PRC). **LD**: 7 Oct, Carl.C (DMK); 4 Oct, Kankakee (JBH); 27 Sep, JP (PRC).

American Redstart
EA: 17 Aug, Linc. P (KH); 22 Aug (4), JP (KMC). **MC**: 30, Carl.C, 16-17 Sep (DMK, WCR); 20+, Evergreen L (Woodford/MeLean Cos), 5 Sep (MW); 18, Kankakee, 18 Sep (JBH); 18, Linc. P, 20 Sep (GAW); 17, Salt Crk Wds, 23 Sep (DFS). **LD**: **11 Nov**, Crest Hill (Will Co) (CMA); 21 Oct, Montrose H (GAW); 9 Oct (window casualty), Chi (CBCM).

Yellow-throated Warbler at Springfield, Sangamon County. 22 September 2006. This is a late date for this species. Photo by Dennis Oehmke.

Canada Warbler
EA: 18 Aug, Linc. P (GAW); 20 Aug, Urbana (DLT). **LD**: 7 Oct, JP (CBA); 24 Sep, Mackinaw Bluffs Corridor (Woodford Co) (MEF).

Yellow-breasted Chat
MC: 3, Adams Co, 4 Aug (ADG). **LD**: 13 Oct, Carl.C (KAM).

Prothonotary Warbler
LD: 26 Aug, Rice L (TAM, SDB GAW); 25 Aug, Carl.C (KAM).

Worm-eating Warbler
LD: **29 Sep** (window casualty), **Chi** (CBCM).

Ovenbird
EA: 16 Aug, Urbana (DLT); 31 Aug, JP (PRC). **MC**: 29 (window casualties), Chi, 14 Sep (CBCM); 12, Carl.C, 1 Oct (DMK). **LD**: 5 Nov (window casualty), Chi (CBCM); 19 Oct, Douglas-Hart NC (Coles Co) (LBH, m.ob.); 8 Oct, JP (KMC). **Others:** 90 window casualties, Chi, 14-21 Sep (CBCM).

Lark Sparrow at Montrose, Cook County. 25 August 2006. Photo by Steve Huggins.

Northern Waterthrush
EA: 15 Aug, Montrose H (GAW); 31 Aug, JP (PRC). **MC**: 11, JP, 24 Sep (PRC); 7, Linc. P, 4 Oct (GAW); 6, IBSP, 26 Sep (EWW). **LD**: 22 Oct, Salt Crk Wds (DFS).

Kentucky Warbler
EA: 20 Aug, Urbana (DLT); 31 Aug, Bloomington (McLean Co) (WCH). **LD**: 5 Sep, Madigan SP (Logan Co) (JDC); 4 Sep, **JP** (NLB).

Connecticut Warbler
EA: 21 Aug, Montrose H (GAW). **MC**: 6 (window casualties), Chi, 30 Aug (CBCM); 4, Montrose H, 14 Sep (RDH). **LD**: 1 Oct (window casualty), Chi (CBCM); 29 Sep, Bemis Wds FP (Cook Co) (DFS). **Others:** **32** window casualties in Chi during season (CBCM, DEW).
None at JP (PRC).

Mourning Warbler
EA: 15 Aug, Linc. P (KH); 20 Aug (window casualty), Chi (CBCM); 22 Aug, JP (KMC). **LD**: 30 Sep, Salt Crk Wds (DFS).

Common Yellowthroat
EA: 22 Aug, JP (KMC). **MC**: 17, JP, 24 Sep (PRC, CBA); 13, 18 Bottoms (Franklin Co), 3 Oct (LS); 12, Rend L, 5 Aug (KAM); 12, Carl.C, 1 Oct (DMK). **LD**: 31 Oct, Montrose H (GAW); 31 Oct, Grant P (DFS).

Hooded Warbler
EA: 26-31 Aug, Rockfd (DTW). **LD**: 5 Sep, Wheaton (Du Page Co) (LC).

Wilson's Warbler
EA: 18 Aug, Linc. P (GAW); 20 Aug, JP (KMC). **MC**: 6, Linc. P, 3 Sep (GAW); 6, JP, 12 Sep (PRC). **LD**: 26 Sep, JP (PRC); 24 Sep, Carl.C (DMK).

Summer Tanager
LD: 7 Oct, Charleston (Coles Co) (RB); 1 Oct, Carl.C (DMK); 24 Sep, Busey Wds, Urbana (GSL); 18 Sep, Kankakee (JBH).

Scarlet Tanager
MC: 5, Salt Crk Wds, 23 Oct (DFS). **LD**: **19 Nov**, Mendota (La Salle Co) (CKM, DJS et al.)—third latest Illinois date; 1 Oct, Salt Crk Wds (DFS).

WESTERN TANAGER
22 Oct, Carl.C (*DMK).

Spotted Towhee
EA: 14 Oct, Calumet P, LCal (DFS).

Eastern Towhee
EA: 5 Oct, JP (PRC); 5 Oct, Montrose H (GAW). **MC**: 18, Carl.L, 30 Aug (KAM). **LD**: 3 Nov, Montrose H (GAW).

American Tree Sparrow
EA: 14 Oct, Wauk. (UWG); 14 Oct, IBSP (JDC); 19 Oct, Hennepin L (DFS, PAC); 25 Oct, JP (PRC). **MC**: 168, Hennepin L, 15 Nov (DFS); 125+, IBSP, 26 Nov (EWW); 83, Northerly I, 9 Nov (DFS).

Chipping Sparrow
MC: 40, Banner Marsh FWA (Fulton Co), 20 Sep (SDB); 31, Grundy Co, 22 Oct (DFS); 30, Carl.C, 21 Oct (DMK). **LD**: 13 Nov, O'Fallon (St. Clair Co) (KAM); 11 Nov, Carl.C (DMK); 8 Nov, Kankakee (JBH); 31 Oct, JP (PRC, JRRS).

Clay-colored Sparrow
EA: **15 Aug**, Fort Sheridan FP (Lake Co) (REP)—**record early fall arrival**. **MC**: 2, Linc. P, 30 Aug (GAW); 2, Northerly I, 4 Sep (SJH). **LD**: 22-23 Oct, Carl.F (DMK, KAM); 15 Oct (2), Chicago Portage FP, Lyons (Cook Co) (JD). Poor fall along Chi lakefront.

Field Sparrow
EA: 15 Sep (2), JP (KMC). **MC**: 25, Grundy Co, 22 Oct (DFS); 16, Rend L, 5 Aug (KAM). **LD**: 29 Nov, JP (PRC); 28 Nov, IBSP (EWW).

Vesper Sparrow
EA: 26 Sep, JP (PRC). **MC**: **58**, e. Kankakee Co, 7 Oct (DFS); **24**, Ford Co, 10 Oet (DFS)—**record fall high counts**; 5, HL, 23 Oct (FRH). **LD**: 31 Oct, Northerly I (DFS); 31 Oct, JP (PRC, JRRS); 28 Oet, Clinton Co (DMK); 28 Oct, HL (FRH).

Lark Sparrow
EA: 25 Aug, Montrose H (SJH:ph); 1 Sep, IBSP (IBHW). **MC**: 5, Adams Co, 18 Aug (AGD). **LD**: 7 Oct, Pembroke Twp (Kankakee Co) (DFS).

Savannah Sparrow
EA: 15 Sep, JP (PRC). **MC**: 80, 18 Bottoms (Franklin Co), 22 Oct (LS); 65, e. Kankakee Co, 7 Oct (DFS); 44, Ford Co, 10 Oct (DFS). **LD**: 6 Dec, JP (PRC); 26 Nov, IBSP (EWW).

Grasshopper Sparrow
MC: 4, Mason Co, 11 Aug (KAM). **LD**: 31 Oct, Northerly I (DFS).

Henslow's Sparrow
EA: 18 Sep, Greene Vly FP (REF, KDF); 2 Oct, JP (KMC). **MC**: 4, Rollins Savanna FP (Lake Co), 5 Aug (DTW); 3, Waterfall Glen FP (Du Page Co) (UWG). **LD**: 16 Oct, Grant P (DFS); 15 Oct, JP (PRC).

LeConte's Sparrow
EA: 29 Sep (2), 18 Bottoms (Franklin Co) (LS). **MC**: 3, Northerly I, 15 Oct (RDH). **LD**: 9 Nov, Northerly I (DFS). **Others**: 8 Oct, Macon Co (TAM); 15 Oct, Clin L (GSL).

LeConte's Sparrow at Glacial Park, McHenry County. 7 October 2006. Photo by Matthew Fletcher.

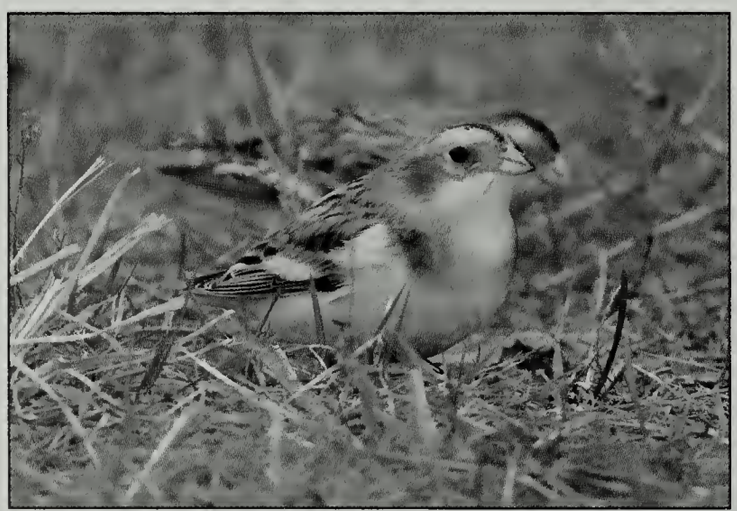
Nelson's Sharp-tailed Sparrow
EA: 4 Sep, Sandwich (De Kalb Co) (DJS); 9 Sep, Linc. P (GAW). **MC**: 3, Pecatonica (Winnebago Co), 15 Oct (DTW). **LD**: 15 Oct, Northerly I (RDH); 15 Oct (2), Springbrook Pr. FP (Du Page Co) (UWG, REF, KDF).

Fox Sparrow
EA: 25 Sep, Thatcher Wds FP (Cook Co) (JSA); 1 Oct, Kankakee (AFS, AS). **MC**: **43**, Grant P, 30 Oct (DFS); 20, Hennepin L, 1 Nov (DFS, PAC); 20, Pembroke Twp (Kankakee Co), 11 Nov (DFS); 12, Carl.C, 12 Nov (DMK). **LD**: 29 Nov, Grant P (DFS).

Song Sparrow
EA: 24 Sep, JP (PRC). **MC**: 79, Hennepin L, 19 Oct (DFS, PAC); 40, Carl.C, 22 Oct (DMK). **LD**: 6 Dec, JP (PRC).

Lincoln's Sparrow
EA: 6 Sep, JP (PRC). **MC**: 11, Salt Crk Wds, 29 Sep (DFS); 9, Des Plaines R (Cook Co), 29 Sep (ABA); 7, 18 Bottoms (Franklin Co), 29 Sep (LS); 6, Ford Co, 10 Oct (DFS). **LD**: 8 Nov, Linc. P (GAW); 5 Nov, Carl.B (DFS, REF); 29 Oct, JP (PRC).

Swamp Sparrow
EA: 15 Sep, JP (PRC). **MC**: **200**, 18 Bottoms (Franklin Co), 9 Oct (LS)—record fall high count for s. Illinois; 68, Hennepin L, 19 Oct (DFS, PAC); 60, Carl.C, 20 & 22 Oct (DMK). **LD**: into Dec.



White-throated Sparrow
EA: 9 Sep (2), Montrose H (GAW); 15 Sep (12), JP (KMC, PRC); 16 Sep, IBSP (EWW). **MC**: 240, Grant P, 16 Oct (DFS); 233, JP, 1 Oct (PRC); 200+, Merwin NPsv (McLean Co), 15 Oct (MW); 175, Hennepin L, 5 Oct (DFS).

Harris's Sparrow
EA: 29 Sep, Salt Crk Wds (DFS). **LD**: 29 Oct, Evergreen L (Woodford/McLean Cos) (WCH); 22 Oct, nw. Winnebago Co (MK fide DTW); 21 Oct, Fermi (REF, KDF); 19 Oct (imm.), JP (PRC).

White-crowned Sparrow
EA: 15 Sep, JP (PRC); 26 Sep, IBSP (EWW); 30 Sep (4), Carl.C (DMK). **MC**: 43, Hennepin L, 19 Oct (DFS, PAC); 35, Carl.C, 21 Oct (DMK). **LD**: 12 Nov, JP (PRC).

Dark-eyed Junco
EA: 16 Sep (2), JP (PRC); 6 Oct, L Decatur (TAM). **MC**: 120, Carl.C, 23 Nov (DMK); 72, JP, 29 Oct (PRC).

Lapland Longspur
EA: 21 Sep (2), Montrose H (GAW); 25 Sep (7), IBSP (EWW). **MC**: 750, e. De Kalb Co, 14 Nov (DJS); 558, Greene Vly FP, 17 Nov (REF, KDF); 250, e. Kankakee Co, 11 Nov (DFS); 150, *McHenry & Ogle*, 7 Nov (SDB).

Smith's Longspur
5, Greene Vly FP, 17 Nov (REF, KDF).

Snow Bunting
EA: 23 Oct, Montrose H (GAW, RDH); 29 Oct, Rollins Savanna FP (Lake Co) (SDB); 11 Nov, Vance Twp (Vermilion Co) (JOS). **MC**: 160, Greene Vly FP, 17 Nov (REF, KDF); 32, Momence (Kankakee Co), 25 Nov (AFS, APS); 24, Morton Arb., 12 Nov (DFS); 22, IBSP, 29 Oct (KAM); 20, Dunham Road Sod Farms (McHenry Co), 7 Nov (SDB).

Northern Cardinal
MC: **80**, Carl.C, 22 Oct (DMK)—**record fall count** by six birds; 47, Hennepin L, 1 Nov (DFS, PAC); 33, Grundy Co, 21 Oct (DFS); 31, JP, 29 Nov (PRC).

Rose-breasted Grosbeak
EA: 31 Aug, JP (PRC). **MC**: 15, Urbana, 15 Sep (SDB); 11, Carl.C, 23 Sep (DMK, TAM); 9, JP, 18 Sep (PRC); 7, Salt Crk Wds, 21 Sep (DFS). **LD**: 9 Oct, Carl.C (DMK); 3 Oct, IBSP (EWW).

Blue Grosbeak
MC: 6, se Franklin Co, 9 Sep (LS); 5 (males), *Mason*, 24-26 Aug (SDB); 4, Carl.C, 25 Sep (KAM). **LD**: **1 Oct**, Kankakee (*JBH)—record late date north of Macon Co.

Snow Buntings at North Point Marina, Lake County. 6 November 2006. Photo by Matthew Fletcher.

Indigo Bunting
MC: 35, Rend L (Jefferson Co), 5 Aug (KAM); 30, Carl.C, 24 Sep (DMK). **LD**: 24 Oct, Kankakee (JBH); 19 Oct, Hennepin L (DFS, PAC).

Dickcissel
EA: 30 Jul, Montrose H (GAW). **MC**: 63 (nocturnal migrants), Rantoul (Champaign Co), 29-30 Aug (SDB); 12 (nocturnal migrants), Rantoul (Champaign Co), 13 Sep (SDB); 4, Montrose H, 14 Sep (GAW). **LD**: 20 Oct, Montrose H (GAW); 5 Oct (2), Hennepin L (DFS).

Bobolink
EA: 5 Aug (30), Rollins Savanna FP (Lake Co) (DTW). **MC:** 81 (nocturnal migrants), Rantoul (Champaign Co), 29-30 Aug (SDB); 35, *Mason & Fulton*, 26 Aug (SDB); 30 (nocturnal migrants), Rantoul (Champaign Co), 13 Sep (SDB). **LD**: 7 Oct, Momence (Kankakee Co) (DFS). **Other:** 26 Aug (partial albino), Duck Island (Fulton Co) (SDB).

Red-winged Blackbird
MC: 15,000, Pyramid SP (Perry Co), 22 Nov (JDC); 6000, Carl.C, 12 Nov (DMK); 2300, Kankakee, 9 Nov (JBH); 1460, Hennepin L, 19 Oet (DFS, PAC).

Eastern Meadowlark
EA: 19 Sep (2), IBSP (EWW). **MC**: 32, Jasper Co, 31 Oct (RES); 30, Carl.C, 18 & 24 Oct (DMK). **LD**: 12 Oct, Montrose H (GAW); 12 Oct, JP (PRC).

Western Meadowlark
MC: 6, Carl.C, 24 Nov (DMK, JWE).

Yellow-headed Blackbird
MC: 5, Rollins Savanna FP (Lake Co), 3 Aug (JSS). **LD**: 2 Sep (4), Rollins Savanna FP (Lake Co) (RDH).

Rusty Blackbird
EA: 28 Sep, JP (PRC). **MC**: **1000**, Farmer City (DeWitt Co), 11 Nov (GSL)—**double the previous fall-season high count**; 300, Calamus L NP (Macon Co), 3 Nov (RLJ); 260, Kankakee, 12 Nov (JBH); 114, Mackinaw Bluffs Corridor (Woodford Co), 29 Oct (MEF); 60, Pecatonica FP (Winnebago Co), 20 Oet (DTW); 50+, Evergreen L (Woodford/McLean Cos), 2 Nov (MW); 40, Pyramid SP (Perry Co), 22 Nov (JDC).

Brewer's Blackbird
MC: 60, Carl.C, 4 Nov (DMK et al.); 28, (see below); 25, Dunham Road Sod Farms (McHenry Co), 1 Sep (SDB). **LD**: 18 Nov (2), Carl.C (DMK); 6 Nov (28+), Du Page Co airport (PAM).

Common Grackle
MC: **100,000**, Emiquon Refuge (Fulton Co), 26 Aug (SDB); **50,000**, Rock Cut SP (Winnebago Co), 10 Oct (LGB)—record high count for n. Illinois; **40,000**, Pyramid SP (Perry Co), 22 Nov (JDC); 6650, La Salle Co, 15 Nov (DFS); 4500, Channahon (Will Co), 19 Oct (DFS), 4000, Carl.C, 12 Nov (DMK); 2200+, IBSP, 5 Nov (EWW).

Brown-headed Cowbird
MC: 800, Carl.C, 9 Oct (DMK); 500, Dunham Road Sod Farms (McHenry Co), 1 Sep (SDB); 300+, Grundy Co, 25 Sep (KAM).

blackbird, sp?
MC: **250,000**, L Decatur, 8 Oct (TAM, MFD).

Orchard Oriole
MC: 4, Evergreen L (Woodford/McLean Cos), 6 Aug (MW). **LD**: 3 Sep, Fulton Co (LLH).

Baltimore Oriole
EA: 30 Jul, IBSP (EWW). **MC**: 35, *Mason & Fulton*, 26 Aug (SDB); 7, Linc. P, 30 Aug (GAW); 5, Carl.C, 30 Aug (KAM). **LD**: 16 Sep, Carl.C (DMK); 12 Sep, JP (PRC).

Purple Finch
EA: 18 Sep, JP (PRC); 25 Sep, IBSP (EWW). **MC**: 42, IBSP, 15 Oct (KAM); 9, Kankakee, 15 Oct (JBH). Few reports.

House Finch
MC: 30, Salt Crk Wds, 15 Oct (DFS); 12, IBSP, 15 Oct (KAM); 11, Kankakee, 23 Oct (JBH).

Red Crossbill
EA: 25 Oct, Genoa (De Kalb Co) (KML). **MC**: 16, Lyons Wds FP (Lake Co), 28 Oct (DFS); 5, Morton Arb., 1 Nov (PAM). **Others**: 4 Nov, Galesburg (Knox Co) (DJM); 9 Nov (2), Rantoul (Champaign Co) (SDB); 20 Nov, Klehm Arboretum, Rockfd (AS).

White-winged Crossbill
EA: 12 Nov, Morton Arb. (DFS); 12 Nov, IBSP (EWW). No other reports.

Common Redpoll
EA: 28 Oct, Montrose H (CMA); 28 Oct (2), IBSP (EWW). **MC**: 7, Northerly I, 31 Oct (DFS).

HOARY REDPOLL
25 Nov, IBSP (RDH:ph, MAM et al.).

Pine Siskin
EA: 30 Sep (3), IBSP (TAM); 1 Oct (2), Montrose H (GAW); 2 Oct, Charleston (Coles Co) (LBH). **MC**: 35, Greene Vly FP, 19 Oct (REF, KDF); 17, IBSP, 29 Oct (EWW).

Pine Siskin at North Pond, Cook County. 29 October 2006. Photo by Steve Huggins.

American Goldfinch
MC: 755, Hennepin L, 19 Oct (DFS, PAC); 400, Carl.C, 9 Oct (DMK); 300+, ISBP, 15 Oct (KAM).

Evening Grosbeak
One report: 26 Nov (4), IBSP (EWW, m.ob.).

House Sparrow
MC: 400, Carl.C, 30 Sep (DMK); 250, Northerly I, 20 Nov (DFS); 222, Linc. P, 19 Aug (GAW).

Eurasian Tree Sparrow
MC: 200+, Rice L, 20 & 26 Aug (TAM, SDB, IOS); 35, Goofy Ridge (Mason Co), 11 Aug (LLH). **Others**: 20 Nov, Sugar Grove NC (MeLean Co) (WCH); 18 Nov, Funks Grove NC (McLean Co) (MW).

EXOTICS:
Black Swan: 28 Sep, Clear L (Mason Co) (RDB, SNB); 30 Sep, Meredosia L (Brown/Cass/Morgan Cos) (TW)—apparently one individual.

Barnacle Goose: 1-7 Nov (with a large flock of Cackling Geese), w. La Salle Co (DFS, PAC, MLR, PSW:ph, SDB, m.ob).

Whooping Crane: **EA**: 24 Oet (6), IBSP (IBHW). **LD**: 12 Nov (2), Kankakee (JBH).

Budgerigar: 22 Jul-21 Aug, Montrose H (GAW).
Orange Bishop: through 12 Nov (pair), Montrose H (GAW:ph).

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Henslow's Sparrow at Saybrook,
McLean County. 6 August 2006.
Photo by Michael L. P. Retter

Ruby-crowned Kinglet at Lincoln Park,
Cook County. 29 October 2006.
Photo by Emil Martinec.